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NIC VON RUPP, PORTUGAL

Photo by Nuno Cardoso

While some breaks are reliable, constantly churning out fun waves regardless of tide or swell direction, others make you work for it. Take this gorgeous wind-groomed cylinder, for example. It's as temperamental as it is perfect, and it takes a meteorologist with a tube-hunting obsession to catch it at its best. "I knew that on the right swell, this spot could be up there with some of the best waves in the world," says Nic von Rupp, pictured here. "But I had been trying to get it good for four years with no luck. This year it finally showed its teeth."

You are now entering
a WiFi-free zone.
Photo by Bush



The Blue Pill

The morning was so gray and still I couldn't tell where sky ended and ocean began. I remember thinking something like, "Wow, beautiful." And then, without pause, wondering, "What's happening on Instagram?" As if the thought wasn't bad enough, I physically reached down to grab my phone, but found only smooth neoprene where Instagram should have been. I was, after all, 200 yards offshore, in a wetsuit, mere minutes into a surf session. I was thoroughly disappointed in myself, just like I was that time I tried to pinch-and-zoom a printed photograph of my family.

Maybe you've heard of "phantom ring," the phenomenon where it feels like your phone is vibrating when it's not. Well, I suffer from a severe case. On more than one occasion I've been in the lineup and motioned to answer my phone, only to realize the truth: Not only was the phone not vibrating, but there was no phone. I feel really old for making a *Matrix* reference, but it works. We're all willingly plugged in—happy slaves to technology. Whether we like it or not, surfing severs us from that servitude. It's just one of the things that's great about our pastime: It remains one of the last vestiges of a tech-free way of life. The lineup is a WiFi-free sanctuary. And during long lulls it can, at times, be pretty boring.

Which is a good thing. A recent U.K.-based study found that boredom is good for us. It helps with creativity and leads to better overall mental health. The problem is that we're never bored anymore, because at the earliest sign of boredom we instinctively reach for our smartphones to distract ourselves. My reaching for my phone while waiting for a set to arrive is a perfect example of this. The point is, we're rarely left alone with our thoughts. Except when we're forced to, like when we're surfing.

The conclusion here is something you probably already know well: Surfing is really good for you. "The Blue Mind" (pg. 52) takes this idea a couple steps further and argues that, neurologically speaking, being in and around the ocean has myriad health benefits for us. So once you're done reading about how good surfing is for you, put the issue down (or put your device to sleep) and go surf. But before you do, check out SURFER's Instagram account. It's really great.

Brendon Thomas, [Editor]


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STAY Stoked!
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Contents



On the cover:
"We had two flights and a boat ride to get to the island where we stayed," says Kalani Ball *(left)* about his trek to the Solomon Islands with Harry Bryant *(right)*. "On this particular day we took a boat out to the break and we could see bombs from super far away. We got to the channel and just started freaking out about how good it was. When this wave came through I didn't even realize that I stood up in the boat. My jaw was on the floor; we were so baffled that we were about to surf those waves by ourselves."
Photo by Andrew Shield

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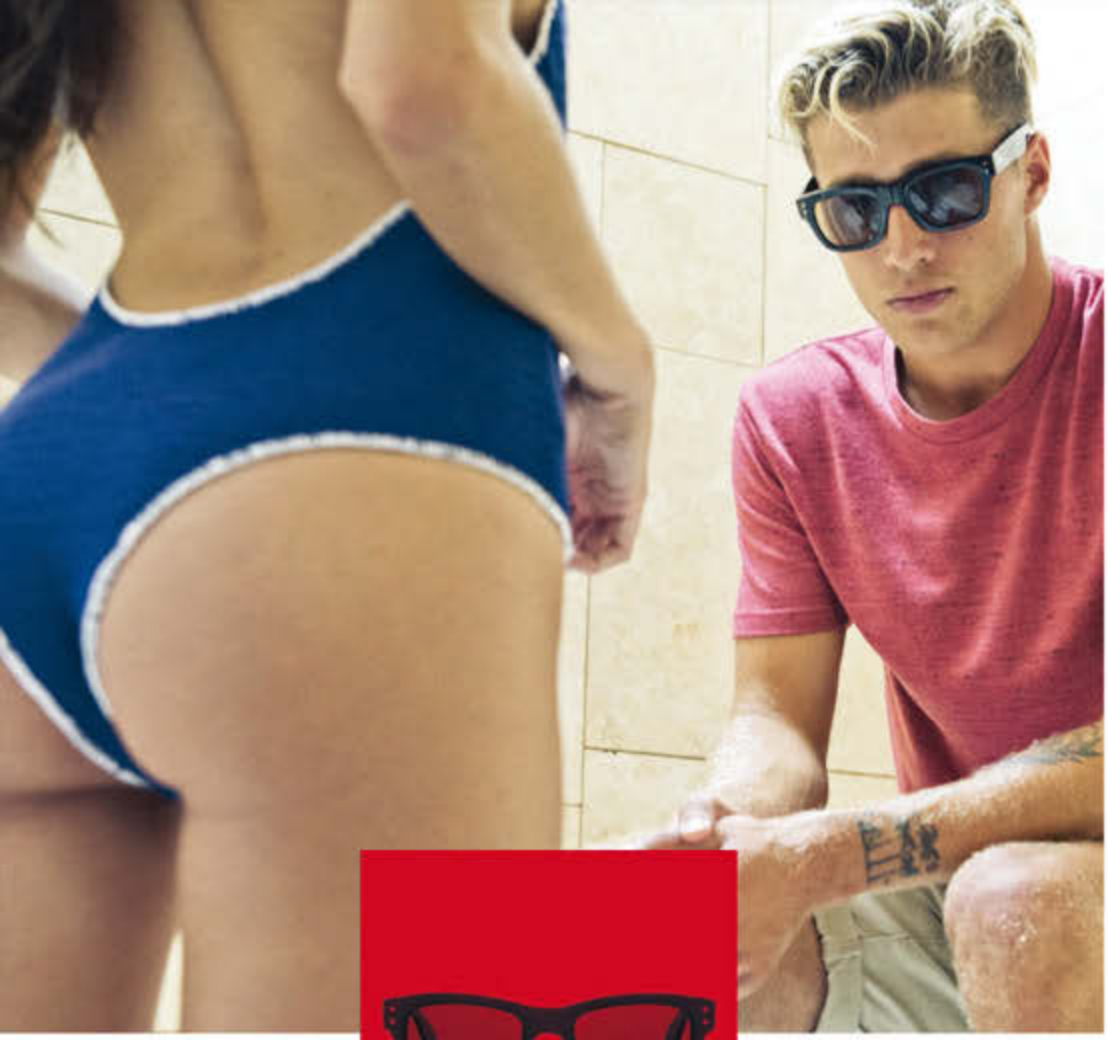
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Léa Brassy heads home after a long session on the North Shore.
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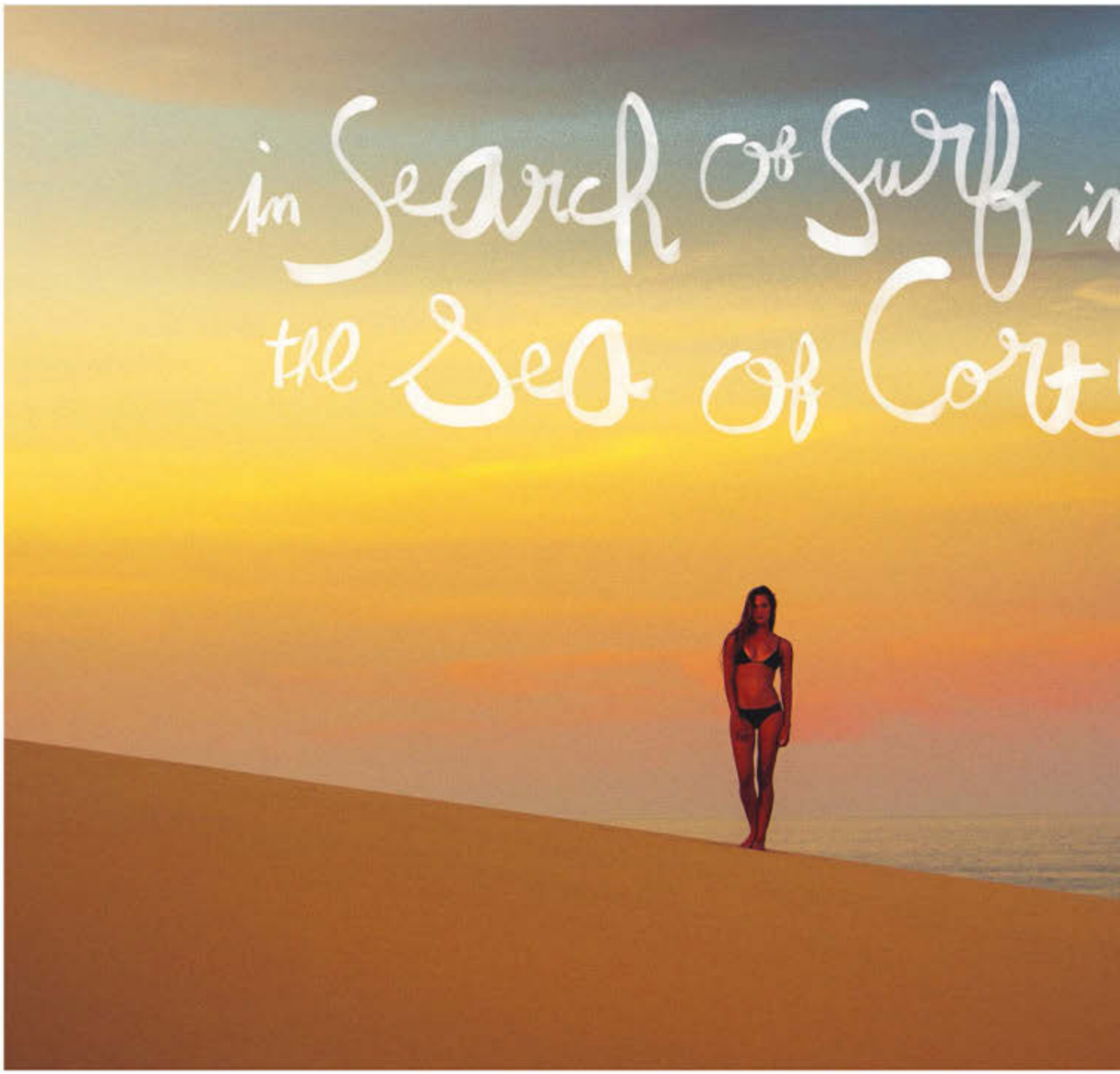
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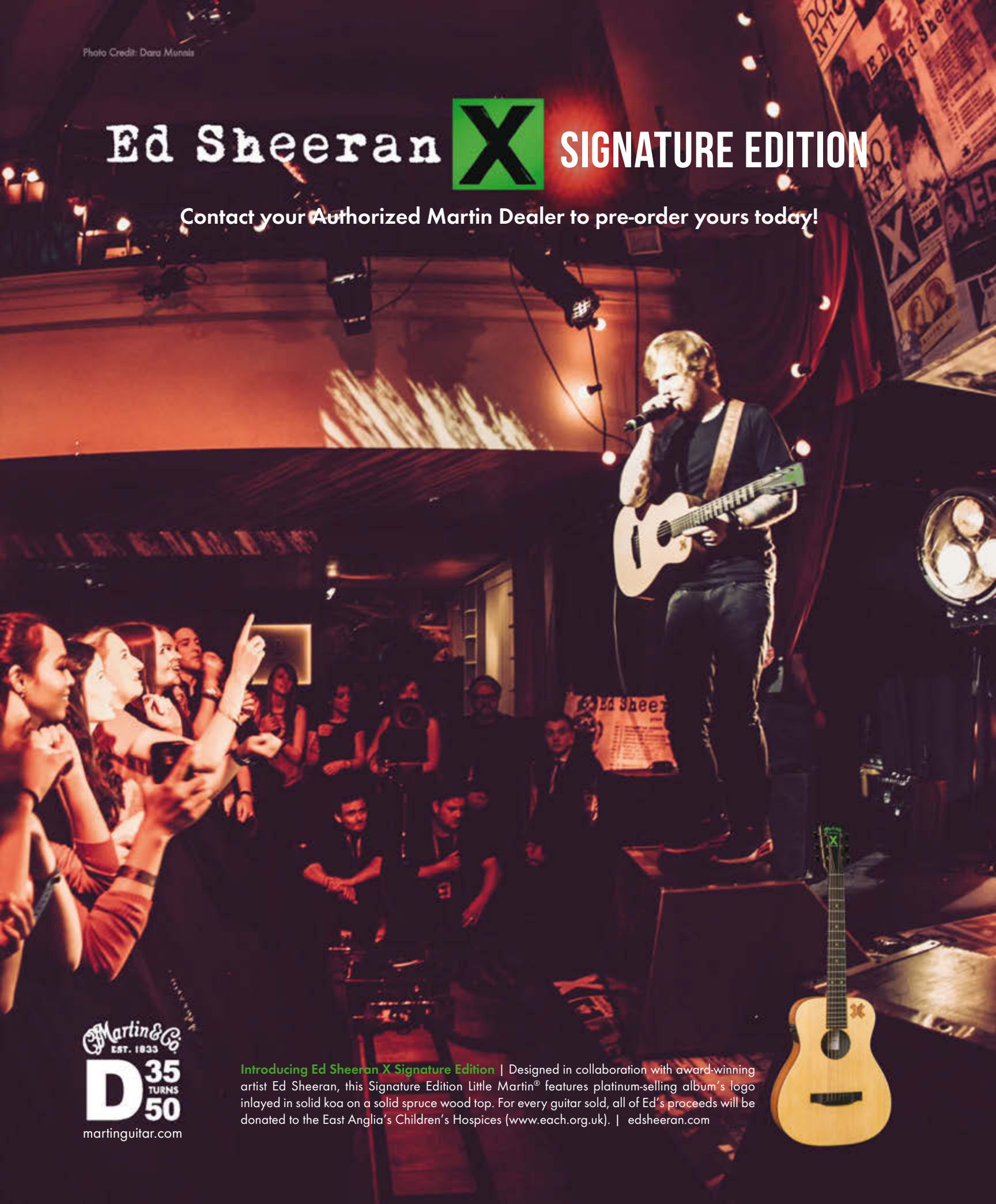
By Justin Housman



ART BY GEOFF MCFETRIDGE

In January, the hallowed, aged, and (it must be said) sticks-up-their-butted Baseball Writers of America voted only four players into the Baseball Hall of Fame: Craig Biggio, Randy Johnson, Pedro Martinez, and John Smoltz. All of them deserving, and all of them blissfully free of the taint of performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs). Mark McGwire, Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, and Mike Piazza were left out of the Hall, and probably will be for years to come. Those four all-time greats also deserve to be enshrined in Cooperstown, but have been rejected by the voters because of their real—or, in the case of Piazza, wholly imagined—use of steroids and other PEDs. This annual Hall of Fame voting process and the "Steroid Era" of mid-'90s baseball are dream topics for sports writers and endlessly generate hot-take columns that lament, with hair-pulling fury, the historical shame introduced by baseball's chemistry-charged decade. (By the way, it is laughably hypocritical for sports writers to condemn the use of PEDs by athletes. Writers use PEDs all the time in our work; we just call it "booze.")

I read one of these sanctimonious articles recently, just after setting my Fantasy Surfer lineup for the WSL season opener at Snapper (all goofyfoots—what can I say, I'm a masochist), and afterward I started to wonder about what would happen if a marquee pro surfer tested positive for PEDs. Would surf fans become as riotously upset ››


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01
Neco Padaratz, still the only World Tour surfer to test positive for performance-enhancing drugs. If his performance was "enhanced," his decent but unspectacular career results didn't show it.
Photo by Joli

02
We're disappointed when pro surfers don't surf like superhumans in waves like this Cloudbreak meat grinder, but that doesn't mean we want steroids to turn our surf heroes into actual superhumans.
Photo by Joli

03
Pop all the pills you want, but you're never going to dope your way to the otherworldly hops and aerial instinct of a small-wave wizard like Filipe Toledo.
Photo by Joli

and utterly disappointed as so many baseball fans were in the '90s? If so, would that even be justifiable? And a related, possibly even more important, question: Would PEDs actually prove beneficial for competitive surfing? I briefly flirted with the idea of going all gonzo journalist on the latter and downing buckets of horse tranquilizers or, I don't know, whatever it is that Barry Bonds took in his heyday, but my head is big enough already.

Moralizing about the use of PEDs in pro surfing—or any sport, really—is complicated. We want the athletes on Tour to surf like angry young gods. That's the only reason we bother to watch WSL webcasts in the middle of a workday, or at unholy hours late into the night. We're only in it for the superhuman performance abilities. Remember the outrage over calling a lay day at massive Cloudbreak during the 2012 Volcom Fiji Pro? That outrage was firmly rooted in the disappointment many surf fans felt when their heroes suddenly started behaving like regular, not-spectacularly-talented people. Waves were too scary? Some of the pros weren't sure if they could handle it? Nobody wants to see that sort of recognizable behavior from paid athletes. (If people really wanted to watch surfers puss out when the surf gets truly dangerous, I'd be the most popular surfer in the world.) Pro surfers are pros, after all, and earn our lavish praise only because they surf the way we'd all love to, but can't, because we don't share the physical gifts of the most talented wave-riders on the planet. So would it matter if those gifts that we demand as an audience were occasionally augmented through a little bit of synthetic testosterone?

Technically, rationally, probably not. In fact, there are plenty of voices out there in mainstream sports writing that call for the legalization of PEDs. Websites like Grantland and Deadspin routinely publish think pieces that at least point out the hypocrisy in being perfectly fine with athletes using pain medications to play through injuries, or to have space-age surgeries performed to repair broken-down bodies, but drawing an ethical line in the sand over synthetic testosterone.

While a sport like baseball will likely accept PEDs as part of the game eventually, I think it'd be a harder pill to swallow (puns!) in surfing. The difference lies in the fact that surf fans are surfers too. Most baseball fans, myself included, haven't played the game for years. We're simply spectators, forking over soul-crushing ticket fees and hefty monthly cable bills just for a little entertainment. Do I really care if the game's biggest mashers are crushing home-run records because they're on the juice? Nah. Not really.

Yet as a surfer, I can see a little bit of myself in each Tour competitor, albeit a much fitter, better-surfing, and probably Australian version of myself, sure. "There but for the grace of God go I" and all that. If members of the Top 34 started getting popped for PEDs (under what I'm assuming will be a more ramped-up version of the WSL drug-testing policy as the sport moves farther toward the mainstream), I'd be bummed specifically because the superhuman-seeming ripping ability of the best surfers on Earth will have turned out to actually be superhuman after all. The connection between fan and athlete would erode for me and, I assume, for most of the pro-surfing audience.

Although, to get to my second question, I'm not really even sure how most PEDs would help surfers anyway. Paddling, obviously, and the ability to surf 15 heats in a day, I suppose. Recovering from injuries, too. But strength isn't really a kingmaker in surf comps. If it were, Sunny Garcia would be hawking Purps Energy Drink as the 11-time world champ. To my knowledge, the only pro surfer ever to be caught using PEDs was Neco Padaratz; he was suspended from the ASP Tour after testing positive back in 2005. Ol' Neco wasn't exactly lighting up the score sheets, either. If he was benefitting from a chemically obtained advantage, it sure wasn't apparent. The lack of an obvious application for PEDs may help keep them out of the sport too.

But if I could one day find the ability to pull off Reynoldsian power hacks at the bottom of a pill bottle, even one that was slathered with dire health warnings, it would become the best-selling drug in coastal communities from California to the Gold Coast. Specifically because of me. I'd buy up all the Gnarlexaprin® I could get my greedy hands on, damn the consequences.


01


02


03


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In Our Element

Five aquatic adaptations you didn't know you had

By Brandt Hart

At a glance, humans look pretty out of place in the ocean. We have low-capacity lungs, lack insulation, and our concept of "swimming" is laughably inefficient compared to our finned mammalian cousins. But thanks to a handful of adaptive traits, we might be much more at home in the lineup than we realize.

01. Finger and Toe Pruning
Wrinkly phalanges aren't just an indicator that you've shunned your land responsibilities for far too long. When humans are in an aquatic environment for extended periods of time, the blood vessels in our fingers and toes constrict, causing them to prune. All of those wrinkles actually increase your grip. A study conducted by Newcastle University in England showed that individuals move wet objects 12 to 15 percent faster with pruned fingers. So if you're going leashless, pruned toes might just be the difference between bragging about your last turn and fetching your board from the kids in the shorebreak.

02. Mammalian Diving Reflex
Ever feel your heart stop when you duck dive that first icy set? Well, it didn't stop, but it did slow down a little bit. When the human face hits cold water, a process known as the mammalian diving reflex initiates. This causes the body to experience bradycardia, slowing the heart rate by 10 to 25 percent. As the heart rate slows, the need for blood-stream oxygen is reduced, leaving more oxygenated blood for vital organs. Peripheral vasoconstriction ensues, sealing capillaries in the extremities. All of these phenomena result in increased survivability underwater, which is good news for big-wave surfers.

03. Underwater Vision
When we see a shadow underwater, we're hard pressed to tell if it's a shark, a dolphin, or some guy on a body-board. The curved corneal surface of the eye is what accounts for the majority of its refractive power, and we lose that power in water. But, according to one study, exposing your eyes to underwater environments frequently can improve underwater vision. A tribe of sea gypsies in Southeast Asia known as the Moken relies heavily on foraging food from the ocean floor. Analysis conducted on this population showed that their underwater vision was actually two to three times better than the average European eye. Through years of exposure to aquatic environments, the Moken increased their maximum pupil constriction, allowing for better vision underwater.

04. Controlled Breathing
Breathing is an involuntary process for most terrestrial mammals, but we have substantial control over our respiration. Selective pressures on our evolutionary ancestors caused the relocation of the larynx from our nose to our throats–a feature shared by many aquatic animals. This development was mostly for vocalization purposes, but it also provided other benefits–namely the ability to close the trachea while diving and facilitate massive surfacing breaths after a long period of submersion. So the next time you're sucking wind like a vacuum after a two-wave hold-down, thank your larynx.

05. Infantile Swimming Reflexes
Maybe you weren't really born to surf, but in a sense, you were born to swim. Newborns come screaming into this world with several swimming reflexes. When an infant is submerged, it will instinctively hold its breath and open its eyes. And, until about 6 months old, infants placed on their stomachs in water will naturally move their arms and legs in a swimming fashion. The fear many people have of water, or the ocean, doesn't develop until long after birth. After all, birth is kind of like making your first barrel. And that's the only time it's cool to claim by crying.



Waterwoman Ha'a Keaulana hails from a legendary Oahu family—her grandfather Buffalo was a big wave pioneer and steersman on the first Hōkūle'a sailing voyage. Ha'a's latest adventure also took her to new shores: she joined surfer and actress Lisa Sheldon on a surf trip up the stunning Oregon coast. Over cold waves, hot coffee, and the vast open road, they shared stories of deep connection to the sea.

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1966



Ron Stoner, The Ranch

By **Matt Warshaw** *Photo by* **Ron Stoner**

In his early 20s, just before the shortboard revolution, Ron Stoner remade surf photography into what it is today. And he did it with one foot dangling over the abyss. At 22, Stoner all but owned the SURFER masthead. At 23, he was committed to a mental hospital. In 1978, he vanished. In 1994, he was declared dead.

Stoner, by a huge margin, has occupied more of my time and attention as a writer than any other subject. Come for the photos, stay for the drugs, heartbreak, divided family, schizophrenia, Jesus complex, turncoat friends, and all the rest of the trials and dramas that chased this quiet, talented, good-looking man to the ground and finally devoured him. His life, furthermore, puts you front and center for all of the incredible beauty and equally incredible waste of the 1960s.

Stoner reminds me of The Beach Boys' Brian Wilson, another Los Angeles County idiot savant with an abusive father who went supernova at a young age, then imploded. Stoner's best photos, like Wilson's best songs, perfectly, sometimes magically, illuminate the time and place in which they were created. Better yet, their work also attaches itself to the here and now. It feels its way into each generation. It moves with us. You probably never surfed flawless Rights and Lefts on a G&S red-fin longboard. No matter—Stoner's Ranch shots play off your own best day of surfing. The Kennedy assassination may have happened 25 years before you were born, but "Warmth of the Sun" lays a comforting hand on whatever heartbreak you're dealing with.

We build tall, wide, marble pedestals to people like Wilson and Stoner, and rightly so. But the shot on this page reminds me that Stoner—before he was an artist, a muse, a tragedy—was first a surfer.

A small day at Rights and Lefts. Good, not all-time. One last shot. Set the timer. Click. OK you guys, load the car, let's go, I'm fucking starving. Hope it picks up tomorrow.



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PHOTO BY POMPERMAYER

THE NOW

Kai Lenny has one of the most diverse quivers in the world, and he knows how to use it

Interview by Jeff Mull

There are few surfers in the world more versatile than Maui's 22-year-old Kai Lenny. He can paddle his gun into bombs at Jaws, huck massive airs on a thruster, kite- and windsurf with equal skill, and win world championships on his SUP (he's got six and counting). But despite being able to expertly ride just about anything that floats, Lenny still cops the occasional grief from his friends about the SUP. It's bound to happen.

Maui seems unique compared to the rest of Hawaii because the community is made up of SUPers, windsurfers, kitesurfers, tow surfers, and regular surfers all stuck together.
That's totally true. While all of the islands have surfers who ride different crafts, on Maui it's really pronounced. And I think that's part of what makes the island so great: It's just so diverse. On any day of the year, you can do any of those sports. Some days you can actually surf in the morning, windsurf after that, go kitesurfing in the afternoon, and standup paddle at sunset.

Which did you gravitate toward first?
I was a really energetic kid, so my parents would try and wear me out by taking me to the beach. Both my parents are surfers, and from the time I was in diapers I was on the nose of my dad's longboard.
I started surfing on my own when I was around 4, then windsurfing at 6, SUP at 7, and kitesurfing at 9. To me, it just felt natural. It seems like they all really complement each other. And on Maui, the conditions are always good for something, so I'm always in the water.

How do you think they all complement each other?
Surfing is at the core of what I do. It's all connected through surfing, but what you learn in each sport can translate into another. For instance, the first time I surfed Jaws, I knew how to handle the speed you get from that wave because of the speed I've felt windsurfing. I knew how to set a rail at that speed without going over. So when it came to paddling in and flying down the line, it didn't feel unnatural.

Did your friends ever give you a hard time for not just shortboarding?
I've always done my own thing, and if I'm having fun, I don't really care what other people think. When everyone my age was super into riding the same shortboard, I was into riding anything and everything. And yeah, I got heckled from some of my friends, but I didn't care. Now people seem to respect my approach.



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Unconventional Wisdom
SHAUN TOMSON
59, Santa Barbara, California

As told to Justin Housman

The fundamental role of a pro surfer, or any athlete, is to inspire. I've always considered it a responsibility. Throughout my career I've given talks at schools and I've tried to be positive about my life and my surfing, and I've always hoped that positivity would inspire kids.

My book, *The Surfer's Code,* was at the printer when I got the call from my wife that my beautiful boy had died. I thought, "I can't release this book right now." So I stopped the book. It was a time of absolute devastation for me. I was mowed down. My wife was destroyed. But then I realized that I needed to have the book published. It was written for kids. It was written for my boy.

Just two hours before he died, my son read to me over the phone. It was this beautiful essay that he'd written for school. It was about tube riding and it was one of the most beautiful pieces about tube riding I'd ever heard. He'd written the words "the light shines ahead." Those words have been such a powerful metaphor in my life. It's become a mantra for me. It's something that I share with a hundred thousand kids a year; I share it with the largest corporations in the world and the most successful businesspeople in the world.

Youth is a time for being impulsive and taking risks, but it has to be tempered with caution. Life is so precious. Sure, risk can heighten that experience, but you have to be careful.

Commitment: That has always been the foundation of my relationship with surfing.

There is nobility in sport. And there's a responsibility to respect something that has given you so much. I came from this sort of old-school, post-colonial, Olympic-ideal environment. I think I always saw the sporting component of surfing differently to most. Duke Kahanamoku was my father's hero and he was my hero. We loved the nobility associated with surfing.

My father always taught me to win like a gentleman and lose like a man.

My life used to revolve around surfing, and now surfing revolves around my life. Everything has changed. The most important thing for me has always been my family, but surfing occupied everything else. Surfing still occupies a very important place in my mind and in my heart, but now both family and career are more important.

Never stop pushing yourself. I still like to get out there and push myself to my absolute maximum. The stoke and the satisfaction I get at 59 years old is the same as when I was 19. Performance becomes relative to yourself and not to anyone else. The push for me is to be as good as I can be. Maybe not better than I was, but as good as I can be on each wave.

The last time I surfed Hawaii was 2006. I pulled into this big Backdoor barrel, probably 8 feet, and just as I was coming out, the next thing I knew, I was flat on my back right on top of the reef; my board hit me in the face and I broke my nose. It was the last time I ever surfed Backdoor.

There are six pillars of surfing: speed, power, rhythm, aggression, style, and creativity. If I can find a board that helps me in all those aspects, that's the board I'm looking for.

It seems that artifice has replaced art. I look around at what guys are riding and there's so much derivation replacing inspiration. I see guys riding boards that we thought were dogs back in the '70s. It's clearly a fashion statement.

There's a shot in *Free Ride* where I get this nice tube at Off The Wall, and the camera pulls back to show Rabbit Bartholomew paddling out. It's just the two of us, and it's absolute perfection. That movie represented such a change in surfing, and that moment was such a special time. It was just me and Bugs at Off The Wall, it was 1975, and we had our whole futures ahead of us.

Sometimes you find your destiny, and sometimes it finds you.



PHOTO BY ORWIC

SHOCK RESIST

PERFORMANCE TESTED ON THE PROVING GROUND OF OAHU'S NORTH SHORE

JOEL CENTEIO YADIN NICOL TEPPEI TAJIMA KAITO OHASHI GABE KLING







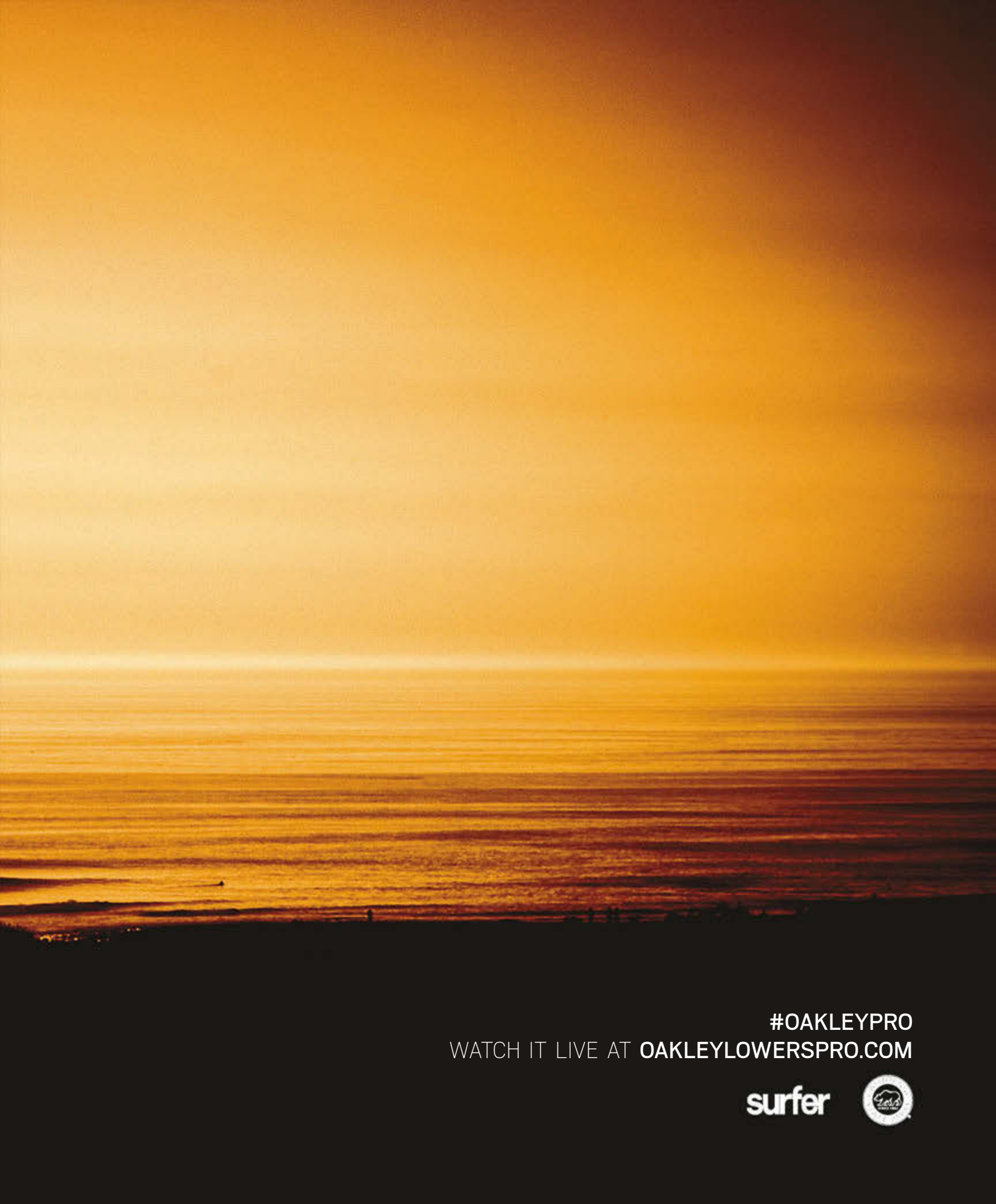




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ROB MACHADO. PHOTO BY GLASER

THE BLUE MIND

PEACEFULNESS, HAPPINESS, SATISFACTION, AND...BETTER SURFING? IT TURNS OUT GOING FOR A SURF IS REALLY GOOD FOR YOU, AND IF BIOLOGIST WALLACE J. NICHOLS' RESEARCH IS ANY INDICATION, THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING

By Maxwell Klinger

A few years ago, I sat with Jack O'Neill on a weathered deck overlooking Pleasure Point, Santa Cruz. O'Neill was under a blanket and had just woken up from a nap, looking—with amber beard and eye patch—like surfing's desert father. At the time, he was 89 (he's now 92), and despite a recent stroke he was full of mischievous energy.

We were talking about the ocean's mesmerizing effect on people when, mid-sentence, he grabbed my arm with a pipe-fitter's grip and said, "You oughta quit wasting your time here and just go talk to J. Nichols." He gave me a steady glance out of the corner of his eye that turned suggestion into command.

I did, eventually, and was thus thrust into the world of "Blue Mind," a term coined by biologist Wallace J. Nichols for the special neurological state the brain enters when we're around water—what he describes as a "mildly meditative state characterized by calm, peacefulness, unity, and a sense of general happiness and satisfaction." It is also the name of the book he recently published that made a run on *The New York Times* bestseller list.

That the ocean can make us happy might seem like a no-shit observation to the everyday surfer, but Nichols' exploration of neuroscience starts to splinter off into some pretty heady avenues of investigation, like how surfing can lead to long-term happiness, how Blue Mind can help us catch more waves, and why surfing will make us more productive, more creative, and improve mental health. No wonder O'Neill was so insistent.

A marine biologist by training, Dr. Nichols, who goes by "J.," is an unlikely person to pen a book that unpacks the dense field of neuroscience. He was the first person to track a turtle's migration across an ocean, he walked a 1,200-mile survey along the coast from Oregon to Mexico with his wife and then 18-month-old daughter, and he's been on the scene of environmental disasters like Deepwater Horizon. But he'd never made tissue slides of the prefrontal cortex or fired up an fMRI machine. His colleagues called the book project career suicide. But having spent his entire life near water—he says he could fish for perch out of his childhood window—and seeing the ways neuroscience advances in the last 10 years have revolutionized our understanding of behavior, he couldn't resist. Soon he was subscribing to neuroscience journals, attending conferences, and listening to MIT lectures on his waterproof headphones as he swam laps. Five years later he published a book that was equal parts hard science (it has 449 footnotes) and compelling anecdotes about people whose lives have been transformed by water. Unsurprisingly, a lot of them are surfers.

I met Nichols at the California Academy of Sciences, a spacious, modern building in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, where he is on the research staff. Dressed in slim-fitting khakis, with a sweep of silver-ish hair, the first thing he wanted to show me was a model tule-reed raft that was floating in an indoor tide pool, something similar to the ancient Peruvian surfcrafts called *caballito de totora.* He said that there was a tradition of building these on the coast north of Santa Cruz, California, where he lives, and he showed me a photo on his phone of a small version he was helping design.

"Our desire to be in or near the water is something that stretches far back in human history," he said. "It's central to so many creation myths." Then he showed me another, almost diametrically opposite, piece of technology: a small headset device that connects to his phone and produces rudimentary EEG scans of the brain.

"You put this thing on and it gives you a really simple read of what's going on with the brainwaves under the hood," he said.

These concentrations—water and how it affects specific neural networks of the brain—are the subject of *Blue Mind.* Reiki healing this is not.

To grasp Blue Mind, it helps to have a little cheat sheet about two ways the brain allocates attention. The first, "directed attention," occurs when we deliberately delegate our attention to a specialized task or decision. You're sending an email, reading a map, or deciding whether to pack the quad or thruster; that's directed attention. On the other hand, "involuntary attention" occurs when some external stimulus, usually something novel and unthreatening, captures our attention. This is described as "soft fascination" and can lead to states of mental "drift." You might be strolling through a forest, hearing the strains of a street musician, or mind-surfing at the beach.

Nichols has taken this dichotomy and shown how being around water, with its sparkling surface patterns, its invigorating breezes, its gentle and rhythmic sounds, and its biotic smells, puts us in a kind of super-version of involuntary state, aka Blue Mind. Cutting-edge neuroscience bears this out.

That research explains how earlier-developed parts of our brain, like the stem and the limbic system—parts that evolved first and through which we share an ancestral link with early hominids and even reptiles—receive stimuli from our senses and respond by sending a signal to synthesize chemicals across various networks of the brain's neurons. Nichols cites research that proves being near water releases a galaxy of feel-good neurochemicals like dopamine (pleasure, novelty), serotonin (well-being, peace), endorphins (euphoria, pain inhibition), oxytocin (love and bonding), GABA (calmness), and even endocannabinoids (our very own cannabis-like chemical). It is only later that we begin to process these feelings as actual emotions. Studies have shown that being near water increases test-taking scores, focus, creativity, relaxation, and empathy. (It can even be therapeutic for things like addiction, PTSD, autism, and Down syndrome.) He calls it "our most profound shortcut to happiness." This combination regulates heart rate and steadies breathing, and can ultimately improve cardiovascular health and lower blood pressure. And that's before we even decide where we're going to paddle out.





TRAINED AS A MARINE BIOLOGIST, WALLACE J. NICHOLS MIGHT SEEM LIKE AN UNLIKELY PERSON TO WRITE ABOUT NEUROSCIENCE. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO THE WAY HUMAN BEINGS INTERACT WITH THE OCEAN, HE'S AN EXPERT WITH FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE.
PHOTO BY GLASER



THIS PAGE
WHILE BLUE MIND IS CHARACTERIZED BY A SENSE OF PEACE AND RELAXATION, SURFING SERIOUS WAVES CAN INDUCE RED MIND, MARKED BY STRESS AND ANXIETY. THESE TWO SURFERS FIND A MIX OF BOTH IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. PHOTO BY SHIELD

OPPOSITE
A GLASSY SUNRISE SESSION AT A PERFECT POINT IS THE STUFF BLUE MIND IS MADE OF. DANE PETERSON, SWIMMING IN SEROTONIN AT MALIBU. PHOTO BY LOWE-WHITE





Nichols walked me down to what he calls his "hiding place" in the Academy of Sciences. It's a dark, subterranean room with 20-foot glass walls that look into an aquarium filled with brightly colored fish. "People of all walks of life come down to this view and they get lost in their thoughts," he said. It's a living example of the kind of environments that spark Blue Mind.

But where there is Blue Mind there is also Red Mind, the busy, directed-attention state when your neurons release the norepinephrine, cortisol, and glucocorticoid that create an "edgy high characterized by stress, anxiety, and fear." Ten thousand years ago, perhaps swimming in a lagoon and looking for dinner, this might have helped us escape the life-or-death scenario of an approaching dorsal fin. This kind of stress can be a good thing, but in the modern world, dominated by multitasking, immersive media, and lives upholstered with video screens, these systems are triggered far too frequently and in far less-consequential contexts. Cortisol causes inflammation in cells and can damage the hippocampus, affecting our ability to "learn, retain information, and create new memories." It ultimately lowers our production of dopamine and serotonin.

Mercifully, your brain has an astonishingly resilient characteristic: neuroplasticity. It can adapt, rewire, and reinforce different neural pathways the more we exercise them. If one area becomes habitually overstressed, repair is attainable. (This is why blind peoples' brains can rewire their nascent visual-processing parts with networks from other senses to give them a sight-like acuity.) I asked Nichols to explain how all this fits with surfing, a sport where it's OK to pee yourself. His response, though qualified, was that we benefit from a combination—what he calls a "creative disequilibrium"—of both Blue and Red Minds. Each of us has our own genetic predispositions, our own baselines, but as far as activities go, surfing provides the ideal tension between the two. The science also explains what makes the best surfers, well, surf better than the rest of us.

"We've all seen that guy who's always in the right place at the right time, gets the best waves, seems to know what a wave is going to do before it even breaks," Nichols said. "It's like a Spidey-Sense." In *Blue Mind,* he explains that the brain is basically a powerful pattern-recognition and -prediction system. It's bombarded with information from our senses, deciphers that data, recognizes familiar patterns, and searches for disturbances. The more we surf, the more efficient our brains become at recognizing a whole slew of important patterns, like water texture, motion, shape, and orientation. Repetition and memory become, in effect, just neural signatures in our brains. So when that Spidey-Sensed surfer intuitively paddles away from the pack toward some imperceptible blip that morphs into the wave of the day, it's because unconsciously, and in the blink of an eye, he's picking up swell patterns, processing bathymetry, feeling the water drawing off the reef, and making the physical adjustments necessary to put himself in the right place to catch the wave. Meanwhile, everyone else is just catching a sunburn.

Fortunately, you don't have to be a savant to reap the psychoactive benefits of Blue Mind. Surfing's ideal tension between Red Mind and Blue Mind is tailor-made for putting the mind in "flow state," those moments of hyper-focus and effortless concentration where "we lose track of time, nothing else seems to matter, and we seem truly alive and at our best." Of all the criteria researchers have identified as prerequisites of flow state, the most crucial is a sense of challenge that "stretches one's ability" repeatedly—an activity whose novelty prevents it from becoming just another habituated routine. Surfing is a dead ringer. Think how elusive mastery is. How no two days are ever the same. Then throw in the variability of conditions, breaks, and the waves within those breaks from one minute to the next. Those dynamics are built into surfing's genome. And when they lead to flow, the resulting cognitive mind-warp allows us to toy with the hands of time, which so little escapes. It can be a nearly out-of-body experience, selfless, an unfuckwithable connection to the moment. The present suspends itself and your consciousness is physically projected out in front of you like a glimpse into the gaping beyond. Next time your boss or teacher asks for a doctor's note because you missed work or school and went surfing, tell him that.





OPPOSITE
WITH ENOUGH TIME IN THE OCEAN, YOUR BRAIN BECOMES MORE EFFICIENT AT RECOGNIZING PATTERNS AND MAKING PREDICTIONS. HERE, MICK FANNING INTUITIVELY NAVIGATES A WIND-GROOMED FACE. PHOTO BY SHIELD

THIS PAGE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A NEUROSCIENTIST TO KNOW THAT YOU TEND TO FEEL BETTER EXITING THE WATER THAN YOU DID ENTERING. DYLAN GRAVES, SATISFIED IN JAMAICA. PHOTO BY ELLIS



ABOVE
JOCKEYING FOR WAVES IN CROWDED CONDITIONS AND AVOIDING OTHER SURFERS REQUIRES YOUR FULL ATTENTION. IN A CROWD OF TWO, NOT SO MUCH.
PHOTO BY VAN GYSEN

OPPOSITE
IN THIS MOMENT, TANNER GUDAUSKAS IS LIKELY EXPERIENCING A NATURAL RELEASE OF DOPAMINE, SEROTONIN, AND ENDORPHINS. NICHOLS WOULD CALL THIS PLEASURE COCKTAIL BLUE MIND, BUT GUDAUSKAS PROBABLY KNOWS IT AS STOKE.
PHOTO BY GLASER

A friend of mine only half-jokingly calls surfing the most selfish thing in the world. But then haven't we all met that guy who has succumbed so deeply to this particular brand of selfishness that he can hold down neither job nor girlfriend (and, usually, there's a van involved)? He's lost the plot and he couldn't care less. In this case, the engrossing properties and the rush of neurochemicals (dopamine, adrenaline, and endorphins) that make surfing such a metaphysical kick in the pants can also reorder the reward pathways to create an addiction on par with drug use or gambling. As a neuroscientist and surfer at Stanford named Kevin Weiner told me, "There is certainly such a thing as too much Blue Mind."

As Nichols and I strolled past tide pools and planetariums, snapping turtles and albino alligators, I began to understand the evolutionary connection implied in Blue Mind. There is an actual part of our brain that we share with the reptiles that first crawled onto beaches millions of years ago. We have an ancestral connection to that experience, something that we can feel (and now describe with rigorous science) when we break free from the meatloaf mines of technology and consumerism and do something as simple as go surfing.

Of course, those who would fetishize or spiritualize surfing might not jibe with this characterization of it being just a big game of chemical synthesis. But it actually makes the mystery deeper. The more we know, the more we realize how little we know. You can taste a little of that mystery with every breath of sea air you swallow.




VANS



Indication



Point

Barra de la Cruz was the first Oaxacan pointbreak sensation. Eight years after its introduction to the mainstream, the wave is damaged and the town is embroiled in a bitter land dispute. What lessons does the outing of Barra hold for the rest of this magical coastline?

By Kimball Taylor Photos by Woody Woodworth



Pablo Narvaez hadn't ridden in years, but his light touch with the reins suggested a skill learned in youth. Like mine, his horse was a rental. We'd both been outfitted with plywood saddles and harnesses of vinyl rope. The ribs of our mounts protruded like the tines of reed baskets, but the animals seemed clear-eyed and willing enough. Two little dogs that belonged to the village also trailed behind, sometimes threading the horses' plods with carnival precision. Pablo used a lazy switch on the golden rump of his horse. He was both distracted by nature and by nature distracted. Everywhere, through the tree canopy and on the cactus plains, he looked about. There was wild pineapple and ebony trees. Behind us, cone-shaped mountains rose from blue foothills to black peaks, ascending in steps to a highland in the clouds. The river valleys before the sea evolved from dry jungle to cactus scrub. A rippled carpet of wildflowers



shivered from dune cover in yellows and purples. Then the ocean, when we met it, roiled oil-smooth with new swell.

Recent rains had all but shut down access to this part of the coast. Even the good roads were bisected by streams swollen to rivers. The only option was to walk and wade, or to ride. Either tended to elongate a surf check into a day's work—which, given the terrain, was fine with Pablo.

Down the coast, he pulled his horse to a halt on the dunes. His eyes scanned some low brush. He shaped his right hand into an "L," brought it to his mouth, and made an odd, crying whistle. We waited. The Pacific boomed along a stretch of sand that billowed like a snowbank. The wind stirred. The horses shifted posture. Then the creature Pablo had called, the blur of a red fox, dashed from one dune-side thicket to another. Even the dogs were too slow to spot it.

This was Pablo's way. Driving in his beat-up hatchback or walking the trails as we hunted down surf, Pablo was always alert to his surroundings, always ready to make observations. Once, driving at about 60 mph along the main highway, he caught the outline of something at the roadside and brought the little red car to a quick stop. We stepped out of the vehicle to discover a small jungle cat that had been struck by a motorist only moments before, and by such a slight margin that only a knot was visible on its skull. The body was still warm, the pink paws tender. The cat was rare. Pablo called it an *onza,* which, in other parts of Mexico, is considered a myth. He took measurements of the carcass, and in the days following, Pablo struck up conversations concerning the cat in the manner of an investigator, as if some witness might point to a fatherless den. A taxicab driver had seen a yellow one with spots, but no, this one was black. It was mating season, another man reasoned. The male cats made chancy moves; who could say?

Like museum dioramas, entire contained worlds were on view in coastal Oaxaca, but to view them one had to either travel incredibly slowly or be an incredibly keen observer—neither of which were qualities of the kinds of surfers lured here in droves in recent times.

By contrast, I knew a cyclist who was making a plodding trek through this rural state when he came upon a snake so big that its body straddled the entire road without any part of the head or tail visible to the eye. The snake's extremities lay in the bushes on either side of the road; only a scaly pipe of flesh was presented. Because the cyclist had been traveling slowly, he'd often stopped off in area villages, where he'd been warned by locals of this very kind of thing. So, coming upon the serpent, the cyclist dismounted his bike, lifted the frame, stepped over the reptile's body, righted the bike, and pedaled on—both he and the snake intact.

Traveling with Pablo forced me into this alternate world, a kind of slow lane of awareness. On foot in a forest, boards under our arms, Pablo and I turned a corner on the track and suddenly came upon a canopy riven with life. The sensation was something like the "It's a Small World" ride at Disneyland. Representatives, seemingly, of every feathered thing fluttered through the branches: bright-red orioles, yellow-bellied flycatchers, golden-cheeked woodpeckers. Over a wetland, a peregrine falcon made wide loops. This was the same species, maybe even the same dude, that perched on a streetlamp over a river in my hometown. It was nice to see where he went for months of the year.

Traveling slowly, we'd walked upon nests of turtle eggs laid only minutes before; I could do slow. But Pablo was something more; he was keen. And to travel with him was to see this place as so much more than host to a string of legendary pointbreaks. It wasn't the breaks that made the coast special; the surf spots were a mere consequence of a place special for greater reasons.

Pablo Narvaez was also unique.

"I think he is strange in his town," said Tannia Frausto, indicating Pablo's love of nature. She was a representative of the conservation group WILDCOAST in Huatulco, and she'd worked with Pablo on a number of environmental projects.

"I might be strange," Pablo admitted, "but not weird."



Opposite
Local lore has it that before 1997, Barra de la Cruz was just a humble hook in the coast. Then came hurricane Pauline–one of the deadliest storms to make landfall in Mexico–which brought torrential rain that blew out the river mouth and filled the lee of the point with sand. Over the next decade, the river continued to feed the point, and Barra soon became the queen of the coast.

Above
Foreign travelers arrived in ones and twos, then Puerto Escondido locals discovered Barra de la Cruz as a respite from their harrowing beach break and created the first real surf scene at the point.





Top
With no air conditioning or accommodation for miles, following the lead of beach crabs, early surfers built palapas and hovels to hide from the scorching midday sun.

Bottom
Given the strength of the down-beach current, this view from the paddle out can seem endless.

There were two catalysts for this native to be considered apart. Pablo was the first local surfer in the now-famous village of Barra de la Cruz. In the 1990s, a pair of Australian surfers walked into a hamlet that boasted no pavement beyond the highway. There was no plumbing or electricity in the village shacks. Roosters shared the road with mangy dogs. Cresting a hill at the end of the village track, the men first laid sight on the waves breaking off bulbous boulders at the bottom of a rugged headland. The waves were long and seemingly perfect. These surfers stayed for more than a month, meanwhile befriending a young villager—Pablo—and teaching him how to surf. The surfers eventually departed for California—a trip that Pablo indicated he'd also like to take. Not long after, the surfers sent word of plentiful work in Lake Tahoe and invited Pablo to join them. The young man hadn't really been anywhere before. But he managed to cross the border in Arizona and then bus it into the High Sierra, where, indeed, there was a job waiting for him. But there was also something else he'd had little experience with: winter. Heavy snow shut down construction sites for long stretches. Pablo filled his hours watching TV, an alien luxury in the village. "I loved the nature and exploration shows," he said. "And now and again, I'd see the same birds and animals that we have here in Barra. They seemed exotic. That's when I realized that I came from a very special place."

He'd return to Mexico and work as a guide for bird-watching and nature tours. He teamed up with the federal government and nonprofits to attempt to save their sea turtle population. When Pemex spilled oil along the coast, he traveled to the capital to protest. And Pablo tried to explain to his neighbors the wealth they held all around them. Environmentalism seems like a no-brainer in places where the environment has already been ruined, but in southern Mexico the leaning toward naturalism was as strange as becoming a surfer. Both inclinations were met with suspicion—amusement, even. He was the town dandy. In Pablo, the two things—surfing and environmentalism—weren't necessarily linked, but had evolved, shifted, and traveled together like species of migratory birds heading south. A recent crisis in the village, however, seemed to pit one against the other.

I first walked into Barra de la Cruz in 2000, floating in upon the whispers of a Puerto Escondido native who, over beers, conjured a dream wave in the jungle. And I suppose I found the village as sleepy and forgotten as the two Australians had. At the time, Pablo Narvaez was away working in California, which meant there were no local surfers or any suggestion that there ever had been. I remember the luminous rocks, as suggestive of form as a ruined monument buried to its shoulders in sand. I remember the current as steady and sure as a treadmill, and the feeling, on kicking out so far down the line, of actually having gone somewhere—of having traveled. While enjoying the golden light of evening on the beach, a fisherman approached. We exchanged pleasantries, and then he asked, apropos of nothing, "Where will you sleep tonight?"

I shrugged. "On the beach."

"You can't sleep on the beach. The mosquitoes will come out of the wetland and eat you alive." The man looked at my few possessions. "Where is your food?" he asked.

"I don't know. Is there a restaurant?"

He chuckled. "You are stupid," he said.

I nodded. We watched the sunset. Afterward, with a grimace, he said, "Come with me."

The fisherman walked me back into the village, where he negotiated with a family who then swept the shit out of their bamboo turkey hutch and placed a cot inside for my comfort. Then my new friend delivered me to the home of an elderly woman who fried up some tilapia and served it with tortillas as hard as the stone mortar the corn had been ground in. That night, lying on the cot, I listened to the complaints of the turkeys who'd been evicted on my behalf; they waddled, gurgled, and pissed just outside the bamboo.

Ever since, I'd taken an interest not only in the wave, but in the pueblo of Barra de la Cruz. I thought it was an opportunity to understand what discoveries

like that wave can do to a place over the long haul; I had Kuta Beach and Puerto Escondido in mind. But the example of Barra de la Cruz turned out to be special because its people had long instituted a form of democracy based on native principles and had consolidated into a recognized *comunal* in 1964. Each leader of a household carried a vote, and no land transactions could be conducted without the unanimous consent of the voters. Sales to any non-citizens of the pueblo were prohibited. To my mind, this communal government that appointed citizens to all positions—from night-watch guards to president—might serve as a bulwark against piecemeal, corporate, and federal tourist schemes. The town just might be able to work in its own self-interest.

Examples of why this may be important lay up and down the coast, from Puerta Vallarta, where residents of the fishing village at Punta de Mita were forcibly evicted so a five-star resort could take their place, to nearby Huatulco, where inhabitants were pushed off their coastal land but invited back to work as maids and gardeners for 70 pesos ($6) per day. From Ixtapa to Cancún, if tourists showed interest, outsized development was sure to follow.

Barra de la Cruz stood in contrast, possibly because of its democratic roots. But how long could it sustain itself?

Word of the wave quietly grew until 2006, when the surf-themed clothing company Rip Curl proposed an internationally sanctioned event to the council at Barra de la Cruz. Some in the council voiced concern about the exposure an international event would bring; some believed they were not ready. But the people wanted a medical center. If they got a structure in place, the government would provide a doctor. They needed $30,000 to build it. Negotiations between the international company and the villagers were uneven. In the end, Rip Curl paid Barra de la Cruz a fraction of the medical center's cost, which equated to less than 10 percent of what it would have cost to permit an event at Trestles at the time. On the issue of exposure, Pablo claimed that he and the council asked Rip Curl not to name Barra outright, which is why, on the webcast, it was called "La Jolla." Regardless, no one expected what happened next: Some of the most incredible point waves any Association of Surfing Professionals event has ever seen arrived in perfect step for the event.

"Those were the best waves I have ever seen at Barra," Pablo said.

The actual location of the Rip Curl Pro Search "Somewhere in Mexico" spilled across the Internet with the speed of fiber optics, and it instantly became one of the most sought-after surf destinations in the world. To accommodate visitors, the town council built a large cabaña on the beach that housed a popular restaurant, and a set of bathrooms just behind. The road to the coast was gated and a small fee was charged for entry. Proceeds from the restaurant and gate fee initially brought good things to the pueblo. The medical facility was finally completed and the road into town paved. Citizens were becoming proud of their little town. The beach cabaña evolved into a symbol of their new economy. So when not long after the contest the historically wild river mouth that emptied near the point began to threaten the cabaña with erosion, Barra's council decided to move the entire river to the east. According to a local surfer named Cesar, this is when sand began to disappear from the break. The river, Cesar indicated in hindsight, was the source of the wave's magic. Without a periodic infusion of river sand, a hole soon began to develop in the sandbar. A tropical cyclone exacerbated the situation, and by 2010 the most phenomenal sand point the pro tour had ever seen was a shadow of its former self.

The town council, meanwhile, citing the prohibitive expense of the cabaña, refused to return the river to its original course. "Why do you want a restaurant with no people?" Cesar asked.

The place where I'd been scoffed at for not bringing my own food now boasted the kind of pizza joint, with its reggae beats and international flags, that you'd find in any backpackers' slum. There was Internet and air conditioning. Yet visiting surfers would show up, take a look at the wounded pointbreak, and head down to the newest surf-world hotspot: Salina Cruz.

Tourism business disappeared as steadily as the sand.

Top
Historically, the *comunal* of Barra de la Cruz has unified to manage its resources–be it their fishery, their land, or their waves.

Bottom
Dinner is served.







The swell that met photographer Woody Woodworth and friend in the summer of 2001 foreshadowed what would hit the Rip Curl Pro Search event in 2006–except, in this case, with only two people to witness it.





Top
Puerto Escondido local Miguel "Westside" Diaz negotiates the drop off the rocks.

Top right
Frigatebirds wheeling overhead as fishermen bring in the catch: The environment is a lot more dynamic than your average break.

Bottom right
Australian travelers have long been attracted to Oaxaca's version of The Superbank. This visitor savors the familiar perfection with much lighter crowds.

This was when a group of locals, backed by the current council president, began to illegally clear brush on the top of the point—an attempt, many believed, to stake claims and then sell the only thing they had left: the town. In the council, moves were made to change the *comunal* charter to allow for private sales, which split citizens of Barra de la Cruz into opposing camps. When I last visited, in October 2014, those opposed to the land sale would not even drive by the homes of those in favor, which is a tough thing to do in a pueblo with half a dozen dirt tracks.

As children, Jose "Pepe" Castillo said, they mostly ate local fruit and maybe some tortillas. Meat was rare. And there were many nights, he said, "when we went to bed with nothing in our bellies." Over the 1980s and '90s, Mexico suffered through a number of economic crises. In villages like Barra, most kids didn't attend school beyond seventh grade. Higher education cost money, and labor was required at home. When they reached adulthood, there were few paying jobs. So, many citizens left.

It was Pablo who turned Pepe onto work in Lake Tahoe, and Pepe would spend 10 years working construction there. He returned in the early 2000s with savings and built Cabañas de Pepe, the first and most popular guest stay in Barra.

The area's economic turnaround seemed a blessing. And though he fully participated in Barra's incipient tourist business, Pepe said the illegal clearing of the land on the point was a step too far. It had the potential to destroy the town.

"Fast and easy money spends fast and easy," he said.

The suggestion was an often-repeated one: If the point were sold to outsiders, the money would disappear and the citizens would enjoy neither. As it was, the dispute had attracted the attention of PROFEPA, the federal attorney for environmental protection in Mexico. It is comparable to the Environmental Protection Agency in the U.S., but with the power to bring criminal charges against wrongdoers. Recently, PROFEPA shut down a 1,400-acre Chinese mega-mall project in Cancún and levied $1.5 million in fines against the developers. The threat posed by a federal intervention in Barra caused a stalemate in the land issue and the feud to simmer.







Back at Pablo's place, he thumbed through an old article I'd written on the heels of the Rip Curl Pro Search. I'd wanted to know what effect a pro-tour event would have on a village like Barra de la Cruz. The question, however, may have been posed too early. A large pull quote in the piece was attributed to Pablo himself, then vice-president of the *comunal*. Countering his earlier decision to veil the location of "La Jolla," it read, "Go ahead, name it. What's in a name? We have control, we will always have control."

Eight years later, Pablo pointed at his own quote and said, "I think maybe this was a mistake."

The links between surf tourism and development did seem obvious at first glance. Up close, the connection is opaque. I posed a question to locals during a weekend baseball game: Was surf tourism to blame for Barra's current problems? Javier Romero was not a native, but had married a local woman and moved here. He felt this gave him a nuanced perspective. In the end, he said, "There are many beautiful villages around here. But people come to Barra because it is the place of the famous wave."

This sentiment was echoed among others. Pepe said, "The whole world was watching [the Pro Search webcast], so of course."

Pablo wagged a finger: "It's not the people who come [that are at the root of the issue], but the power that their money has."

Barra de la Cruz, because of its communal leadership, was the example conservationists and urban planners pointed to as a managed-growth success story. The decision to charge a modest entrance fee and put the proceeds toward infrastructure, for example, had been repeated with success in nearby Salina Cruz. But with Barra's founding charter threatened by development pressures, I wondered how less-organized villages might fare. This is what sent Pablo and me up and down the coast. I wanted to see, firsthand, what was at stake.

We traveled under old volcanoes bearded in green and toothed in escarpments of gray rock. In the dry season the leaves vanish from hillside brush, the stone shows, and the tall cactuses stand as straight as candles. The elevations of the peaks and ridges rise and darken like paint swatches in the sunset—green to blue to charcoal, yellow, gold, and black. A yellow-breasted flycatcher darted back and forth across a muddied road bordered by a barbed-wire fence and plied by the wooden wheels of ox-drawn carts. We skirted a papaya plantation and came upon a particularly beautiful stretch of coast. Pablo looked around and, despite Barra's problems—despite himself, even—said, "This would be a good place for a surf camp."

Opposite
Local clothing brand Mexpipe founder Brandy White (right) and friend set a precedent for the cruisy scene that exists at Barra today.

Below
Before word spread of the perfect surf at Barra de la Cruz, the beach was often empty besides a few semi-feral dogs marauding the sand. These days a different kind of pack has taken over the point.



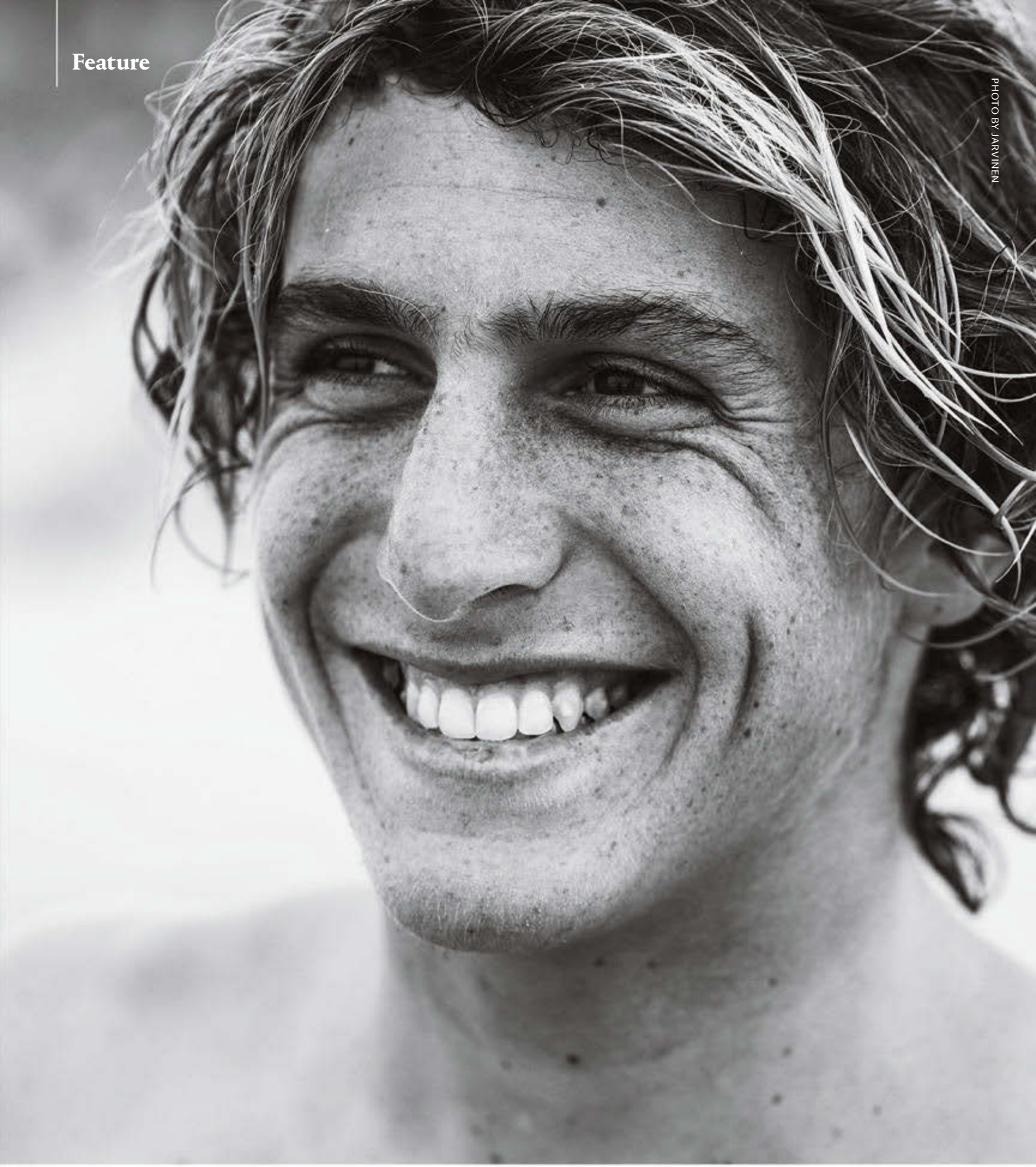
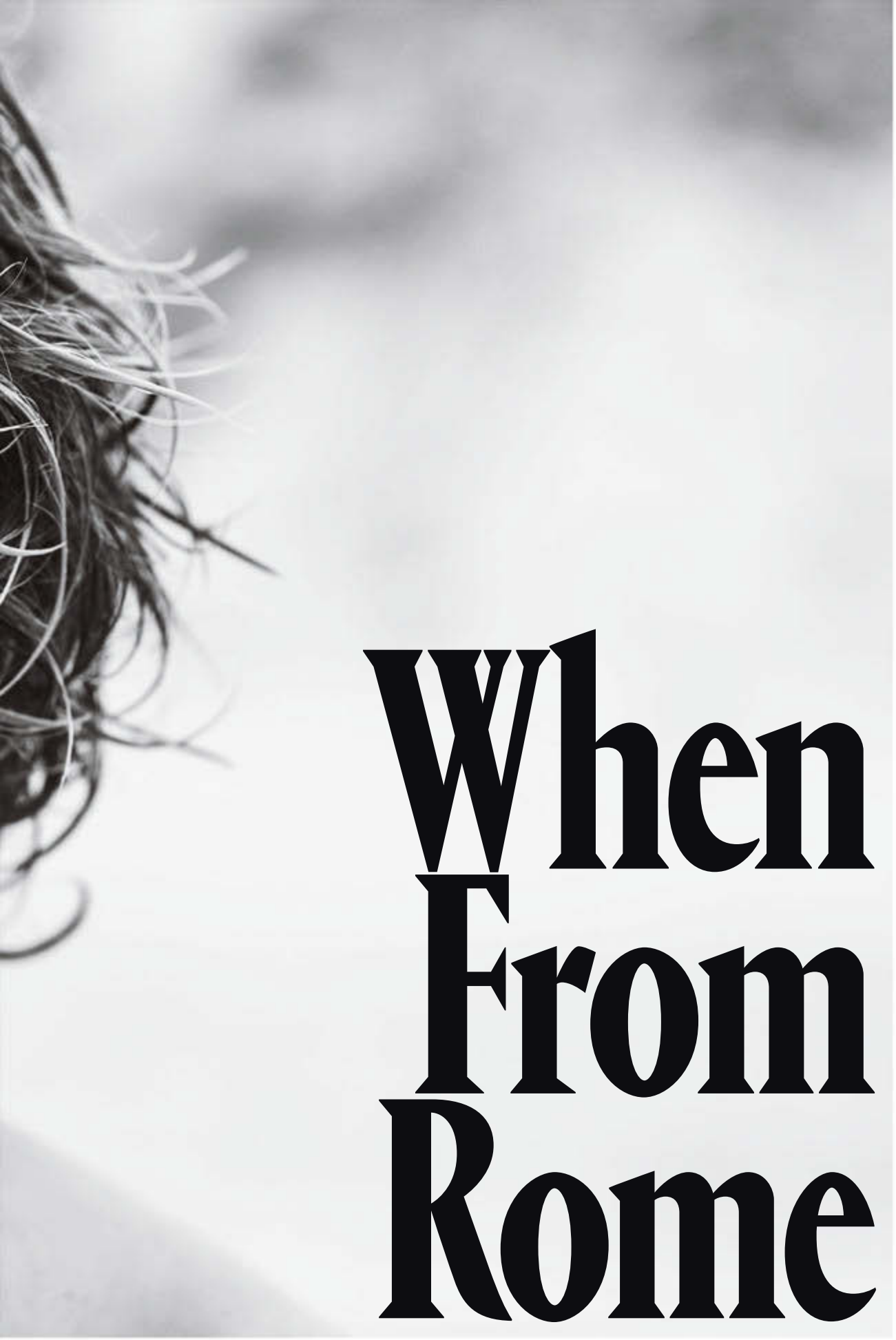


PHOTO BY JARVINEN



When From Rome

Leonardo Fioravanti has done as the Romans seldom do: Become a world-class surfer

By Sean Doherty

"The secret is you've got to make the base *soooo* thin—thin crust that doesn't curl. Two ingredients: tomato, mozzarella. Easy."

Leo Fioravanti is talking pizza, talking with his hands, and I'm flashing on the scene from *Goodfellas* where Cousin Paulie is slicing garlic with a razor blade *soooo* thin that it disappears completely into his pasta sauce. Fioravanti is finding that the one problem with being a traveling Italian surfer is that you have to tolerate the world's doughy, cheesy, cartoonish interpretation of pizza.

"It doesn't matter where I go, it's just not as good as home," he laments. "And I don't dial for pizza. Ever."



Sharing his name with a Renaissance alchemist and a 1960s Ferrari-driving playboy, the current incarnation of Leo Fioravanti has followed the least likely profession for an Italian and gone into pro surfing. As far as he knows, he's Italy's only professional surfer. "There are a couple of other guys who surf pretty good," he says, scratching his head, "but I think I'm it." Italy's only pro surfer finished the 2014 season in 28th on the ASP's World Qualifying Series—one result short of making the Tour at just 16 years old.

But to understand how a kid who grew up surfing al dente short-fetch Mediterranean slop has climbed to within a whisker of making the World Tour, you need to understand that Fioravanti is a little more cosmopolitan and a lot more worldly, and in many ways has been hothoused for this kind of success. He's been on the road since he was 9, has lived in France, California, and Australia, gone to school at Huntington Beach and on the Gold Coast, surfed everything from Sardinia to Pipeline, and speaks five languages—Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and slick English probably better than your own. The kid belongs to the world as much as he belongs to Italy.

Fioravanti started surfing just outside of Rome. "Growing up, my brother drove this little Mini car and I'd go with him surfing—the full Italian road trip," he remembers. They surfed a wave 20 kilometers from Rome called Banzai, somewhat less consequential than the Hawaiian equivalent but enough of a buzz to get the kid hooked on this strange thing called surfing. "All my friends at school played soccer, but my mom would come and pick me up out of school and go, 'There's waves. Let's go surf.' I'm really thanking my parents for getting me into it, 'cause surfing wasn't so big in Italy back then. Actually," he laughs, "it still isn't really that big now."

At age 9, Fioravanti went to France and surfed Hossegor, and he's hardly been home since. He's followed closely in the footsteps of Europe's other surfing wonder-boy, Jeremy Flores, signing with Quiksilver and moving to France, but springboarding widely from there. His stepdad is Stephen Bell, the same guy who's been in Kelly Slater's corner on Tour for 15 years, and then there's Slater himself, who has been on dozens of surf trips with Fioravanti. "I'm lucky to spend time and surf with him," says Fioravanti of Slater. "He's still smashing all the kids and I just watch everything he does and just learn, learn, learn."

I first met Fioravanti at the SURFER house on the North Shore of Oahu. He was a skinny 12-year-old at the time, and even at that age it was clear the kid was destined for some form of stardom. As soon as the camera came out to shoot a couple of photos for the mag, the "Leo Show" started: the Italian hands started waving around, ››



Opposite
From its reef-shaking barrels to more playful sections, the North Shore has helped Fioravanti mold his surfing more than any other stretch of coast.
Photo by Jarvinen

This page
While he may hail from Italy, Fioravanti has traveled extensively and honed his skills in world-class waves around the globe. Indonesia, an easy favorite.
Photo by Pujol



It's no easy task to stand out at Pipeline, especially at the height of the season when the best barrel riders in the world are out in force. Yet Fioravanti managed to do just that last winter. **Photo by Noyle**



the jokes started flying, the Italian expressionism undeniable. To close the show he pulled a chocolate cream pie out of the fridge and threw it comically into Jack Robinson's face.

A few months later I saw him in G-Land, and when one of the older European guys in the camp, who'd had a skinful of Bintang, held him down and cut his hair, well, it was a performance worthy of an Italian soccer player being kicked in the shin during a World Cup semifinal. It was clear the kid was a character, but could also really surf. Grajagan nudged 10 foot on that trip, and Fioravanti, 12, was up the point at Money Trees, calmly taking sets. "It felt like 12,000 feet for us," he remembers, "but we loved it."

His progress was frighteningly quick. Just three years later I watched him paddle out at Banzai—the Hawaiian version, not the Italian—on the biggest day of the winter and scratch into one of the heaviest, most ludicrous Backdoor waves I've ever seen. "That was the first day I got to Hawaii. As the swell picked up, I got my big board and paddled out and I'm just thinking, 'OK, first day in Hawaii, one big bomb.' Boom! Straight away this thing came to me and I was kinda in the spot, and I just went," he says. "The wind was blowing up the face so hard I couldn't see much. I stood up and suddenly I could see and the wind was holding me in the lip and I'm like, 'Oh my God, this is heavy.' Then it was full slow motion: I jumped, threw my board, hit the bottom, then went back up and hit the bottom again. Fully smashed, biggest wipeout of my life—but I was stoked after that 'cause everyone was screaming at me. That was just as good as getting a good wave. Everyone saw it."

Having missed qualifying for the Tour by a hair at the end of last year—which would have made the Italian kid the youngest and most unlikely Tour surfer of all time—the new year seemed ripe. By February 1, it was over. Fioravanti found himself pressed fast against the reef at Pipe, pressed thin as Italian pizza, his back broken, his dream season over before it began. Slater was on the beach to help cart him to the meat wagon, while Fioravanti's mom, Serena, and Belly watched helplessly from home in France. As this issue went to print, Fioravanti was lying in a hospital bed in Bordeaux with two titanium rods in his back, the morphine fading out and the pain rising like a tide. He'd taken calls from Slater and from Mick Fanning, offering the kid a bit of hope beyond his next round of meds. But he'll be surfing again in a few months; the titanium will be gone and his back strong again, and he'll be off again chasing the success he's been raised for.

We've recently seen the beach at Pipeline full of Brazilian fans cheering on the first Brazilian world title. Remember how unlikely that seemed a decade ago? Can we imagine a time in the near future where the beach at Pipe is covered in Azzuri blue, the Italian flags waving, pizza trucks lining the Kam Highway, and everyone complaining about Rocky Point being overrun by Italian surfers? Can we imagine an Italian world surfing champion? A Roman conquering surfing?

Leo Fioravanti can. "That's my dream and my goal, and if I could achieve that it would be amazing. Surfing is not the biggest thing in Italy, so if that ever happened it would be incredible. I try to stay true to being Italian even though I have lived away and traveled so much," he says. Fioravanti drifts off for a second. "Italian surfer world champion... Yeah, sure, it sounds weird, but sounds good, too, huh?"



Although a horrendous wipeout and broken back have sidelined Fioravanti for now, he's in high spirits and expects to be pulling into waves like this again next season. **Photo by Jarvinen**



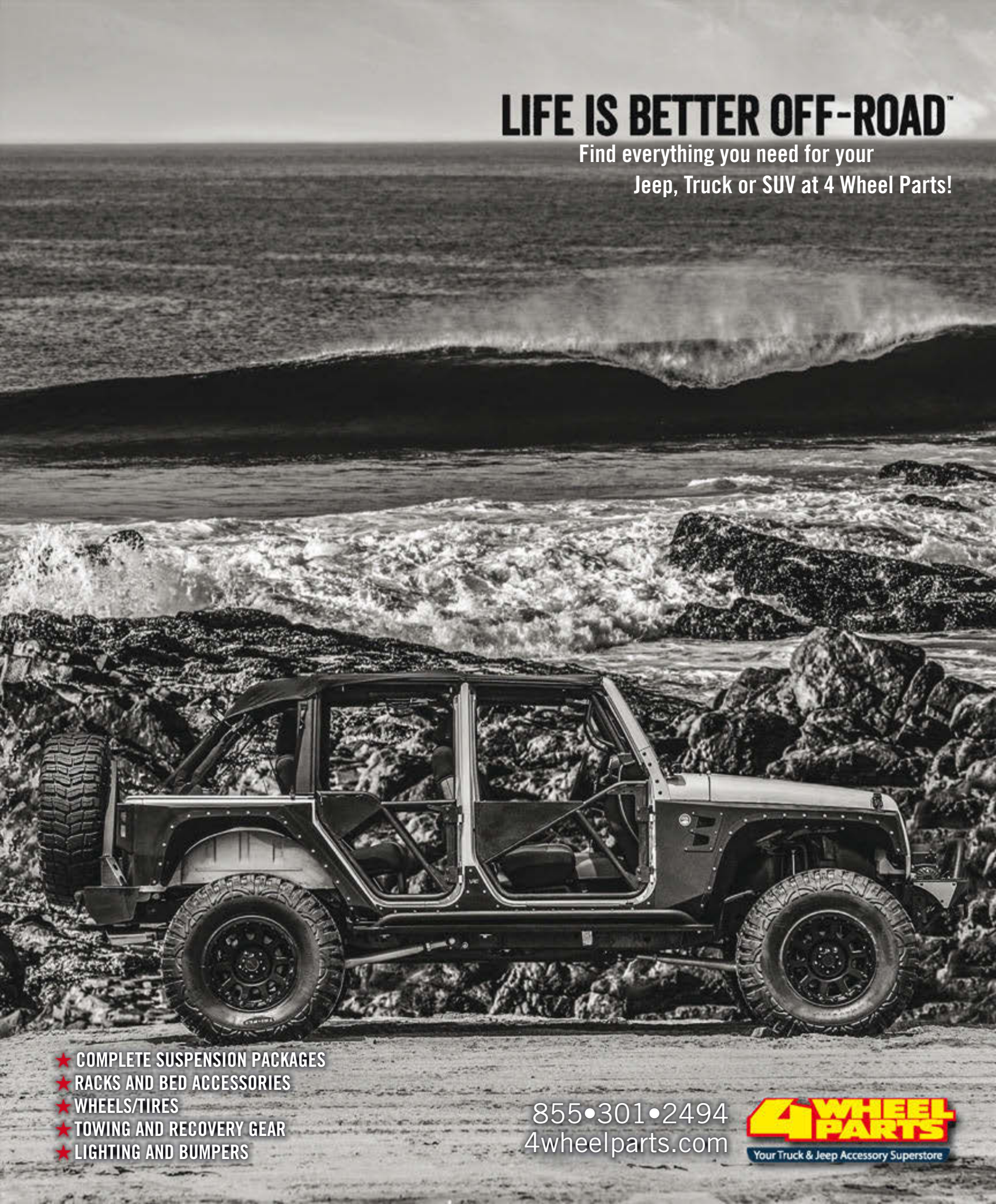
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GLOSSARY OF TERMS



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Blank
Rough-molded foam core that comes in different basic designs and rockers depending on the length and type of surfboard being shaped. Usually made from polyurethane foam.

Bottom Contour
The lateral curve of the bottom of the board as it runs from rail to rail. Can be flat, convex, concave, or a combination.

Carbon Fiber
A strong compound, soakable in resin, is occasionally laid in strips along the length, rails, or tails of a board during glassing to help prevent creasing.

Channels
The channel bottom consists of flat planes that are designed in a concave configuration. Since the channels sit side by side, the water isn't compressed as it is in a full concave, and each channel propels water down the underbelly of the surfboard and converts it into forward thrust. Longer and deeper channels create a more pronounced effect.

Concave
The main purpose of concave is to channel the water flow down the length of the surfboard. This channeling of the water along the center of the board and out through the tail adds more lift and responsiveness to the surfboard. Concaves are an important design feature that can cause a board to track swiftly and improve tail responsiveness for critical turns.

Drag
The effect that causes water flow to be slowed or disrupted as it passes along a surfboard's surfaces. Controlled drag is an essential requirement of surfboard design.

Drive
The result of water passing along the bottom surface of a surfboard, causing acceleration along the face of a wave. A key factor for control and direction, affected heavily by choice of fin setup.

Epoxy
Type of plastic resin used by some manufacturers in place of polyester resin. Usually an epoxy-user also uses an EPS blank, which can be badly affected by standard polyester resins. Known for its durability.

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)
A type of foam also known as Styrofoam or bead foam.

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[CONTINUED FROM PG.8]

Polystyrene beads are expanded by steam in a mold, with desired density determined by the quantity of beads expanded within that mold.

Foil

The distribution of foam from nose to tail on a surfboard. For the board to flow correctly, it must have an even volume through the shape. If there is excessive foam left in the nose, center, or tail, it will create uneven flow and cause the surfboard to be unbalanced.

Polyurethane (PU)

The most common type of foam used in surfboard manufacturing. Usually employed together with polyester resin.

Rails

The perimeter of the board. There are several different types of rails that all produce a different effect. Soft and rounded rails make the board slower, but easier to handle. Down rails increase speed, but make the board more difficult to turn. Sharper rails promote quick turns, but don't carry momentum as well as fuller rails.

50/50
A proportional distribution of rail where the widest point is at the midpoint of the rail.

DOWN RAILS
A rail that comes to an edge at the bottom of the board.

ROLLED RAILS
Down rails that are rolled under the board.

ROUND RAILS
A rounded edge that is almost a complete semicircle.

Release

The effect that allows water flow to be accelerated as it passes along a surfboard's surfaces. Release is altered through tail rocker, outline curves, trailing fin edges, and through bottom features such as concaves and channels. Controlled release (along with its opposite, drag) is essential to successful surfboard design.

Rocker

The curve of your surfboard from nose to tail. It can be broken down into different sections such as nose rocker, tail rocker, and center. It affects the flow of water from entry to release.

Tails

The back section of the board. Tails are crucial in determining how a surfboard will function. Increased tail width means greater speed, especially in smaller surf, but less control; narrower tails don't maneuver as well, but adhere better to the wave face and are ideal for tube riding and big-wave boards.

PIN
This tail converges into a sharp pinpoint and functions optimally in large waves due to its minimal surface area.

ROUND
With a bit more surface area than the rounded pin, the round tail performs best in mid-range surf, allowing for smooth turns.

ROUNDED PIN
Optimal for rail surfing and can hold in bigger conditions.

SQUARE
Features sharp, rectangular edges and allows for speedy, angular surfing.

SQUASH
The squash is a squaretail with rounded edges, which softens the feel and lessens responsiveness. The squash has become a staple of shortboards.

SWALLOW
Swallowtails are marked by a vee cut into the tail, leaving what looks like a swallow's tail. It offers maximum drive combined with maneuverability.

Vee

The opposite of concave, vee is used to loosen up the tail at high speeds by increasing the rocker at the rail line, making it easier to lean on edge and turn.



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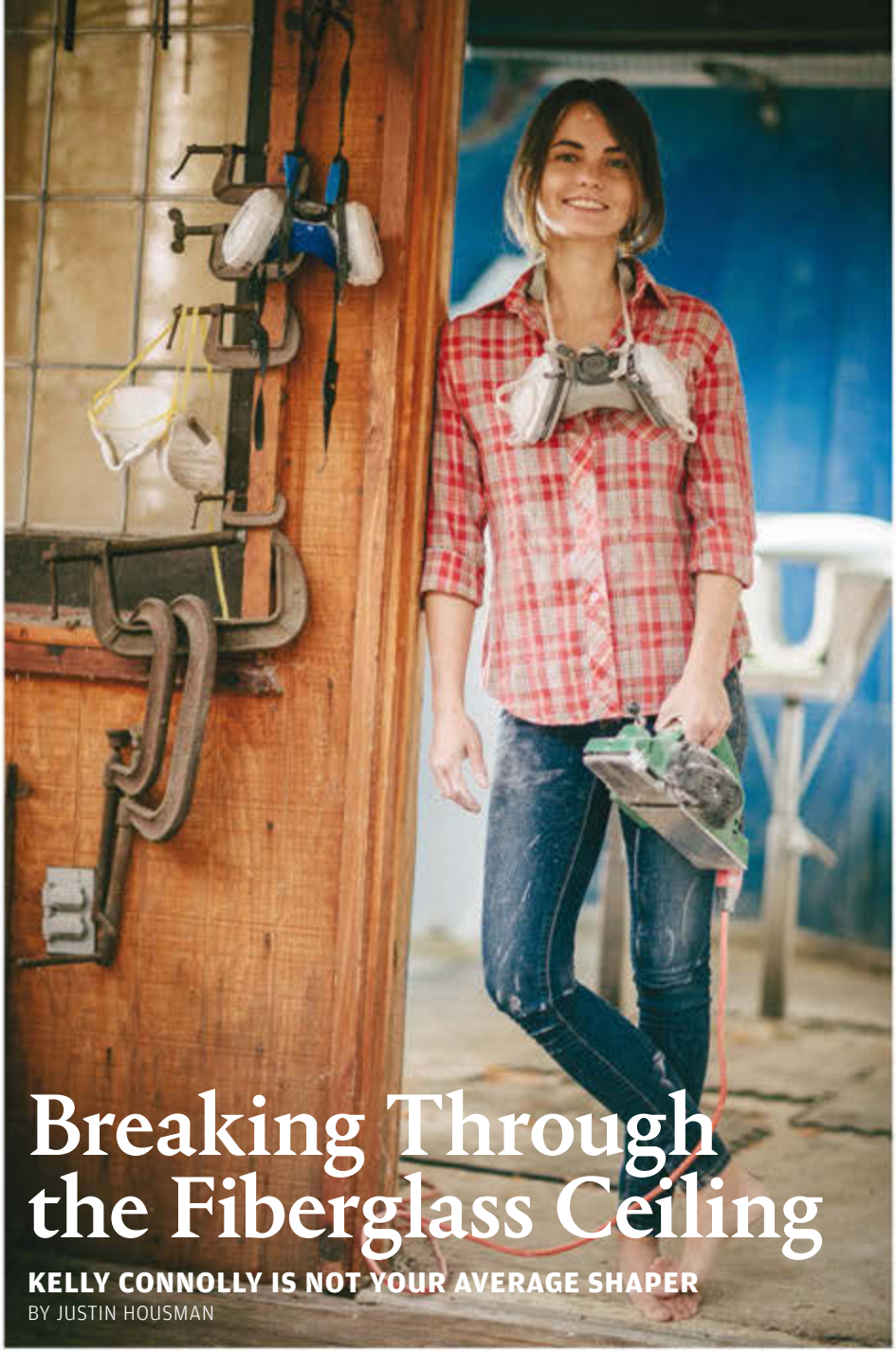


PHOTO BY ELLIS

Breaking Through the Fiberglass Ceiling

KELLY CONNOLLY IS NOT YOUR AVERAGE SHAPER

BY JUSTIN HOUSMAN

It's only a matter of time, really. If you surf, live in the hills, and have chickens and rabbits roaming freely in the backyard, a kind of *Morning of the Earth* vibe will take hold of you. Before you know it, you're out in a shed, wearing a flannel, sawing out single-fin templates by hand. If those handmade boards are good enough, people will hear about it and they'll start dropping by your house, asking about mid-lengths and sheepishly hinting at bro deals. Those people might be surprised, however, when the foam-dust-covered, planer-wielding craftsman who answers the door is Kelly Connolly, a slight, cheerful woman in her late 20s. And she's a mom—a mom who owns Everyday Surfboards, one of the most varied and eclectic labels in Southern California.

Connolly learned to surf in the gentle crumblers of San Onofre at age 10, and by high school was an, ahem, everyday surfer. About six years ago she made her first board with shaper Richard Wisz, who runs a surfboard-building business of his own. Connolly worked on one side of the stringer, Wisz on the other, and when they met in the middle, *Lady and the Tramp* style, they'd built a finished, perfectly rideable surfboard—and kindled a bit of romance, too. Eventually they married, but not before Connolly was blocking Wisz from his shaping room so she could make her own boards. "I'd yell, 'No, no, don't come in here!'" Connolly says about her first solo shaping efforts. "It was a process; I had to see what I could do by myself."

What she could do by herself was build a reputation as a serious shaper and start her own surfboard business. "I knew as soon as I started working with the medium that building boards was something I wanted to be doing," Connolly says. "I saw that it was not only something I could do, but something I could do well." Three years ago she cast aside her day jobs—one of which was a stint working for Ty Pennington, host of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition"—to mow foam full time as owner of Everyday Surfboards. Connolly says that forming calluses and swinging hammers while working with Pennington got her used to working with her hands. "Refurbishing pieces, sanding, just doing lots of manual labor made building surfboards feel natural," she explains.

Connolly's since made hundreds of boards. "I have more male clients than female," she says. "I don't know if that's just because there are more male surfers than female surfers, but I've been surprised to sell more boards to men than women." Women all over the country who have long wanted to make boards of their own now reach out to Connolly for support or guidance or just to say thanks.

"It's possible that women shape differently than men," Connolly says. "Even how my husband and I hold the tools is different. And with foam you have to have a certain finesse. You can do the whole thing with a planer, you can do the whole thing by hand; there are just so many different ways to go about it, but it's not anything that women can't do."

Last year, Connolly was surprised to be included as one of four shapers in the prestigious Chunk of Foam challenge at the annual The Boardroom surfboard show. It was the first time a female shaper appeared in the event, and Connolly went up against Chris Christenson, Hank Warner, and Mike Estrada, all of whom set about replicating a classic shape from a big block of foam—no power tools allowed. In this case, it was the 5'5" × 19 ¼" fish that Matt Biolos made for his ...Lost team riders Chris Ward and Cory Lopez in 1995.

"She has a real talent," says Scott Bass, surfboard historian and organizer of the challenge. "I was really proud of the effort she turned in. To a man, Christenson, Warner, and Estrada all told me, and her, how impressed they were. Kelly had a plan, she attacked it—she is a shaper's shaper, a craftsperson. She kicked ass. I would be stoked to own and ride one of her boards."

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TL PRO CARBON



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Surfboard Buyer's Guide

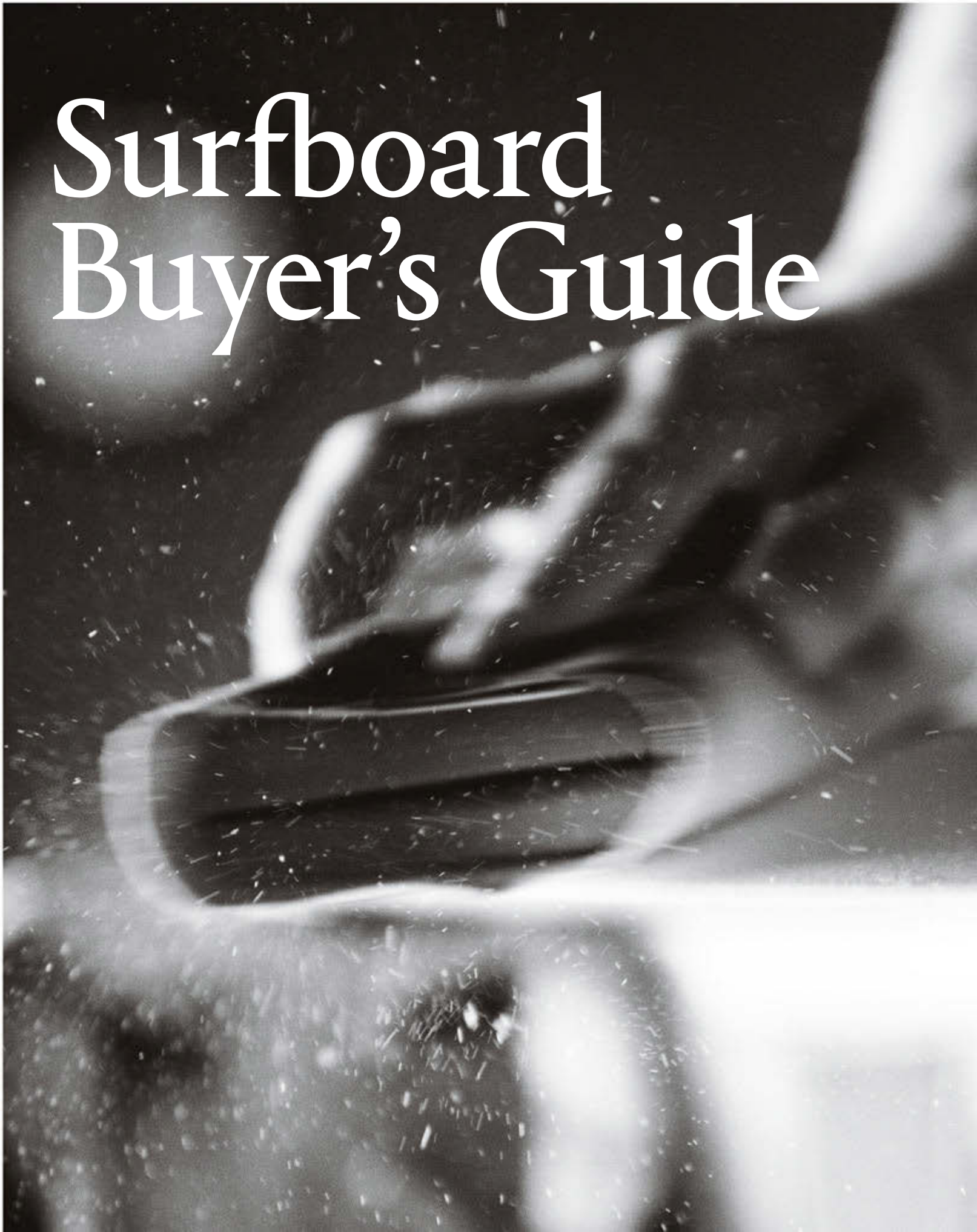




PHOTO BY GORDON

EXPERIENCE KEY

BEGINNER TO NOVICE
You're working on the fundamentals, and might still have a little beginner's luck in your system. You know how to catch a wave, but your repertoire of maneuvers is limited. You need a board that allows plenty of room for improvement.

INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED
Your surfing expertise isn't entirely dialed in, but you're able to match the right setup to the right wave. You know what great surfing looks like, and humbly realize you're not quite there yet. You need a board to bridge that transition to the next level.

EXPERT TO PRO
You speak of barrels, aerials, and tropical islands from personal experience. You've got a deep bag of tricks and a quiver to match. You need a board that's up for the challenge.

AJW SURFBOARDS



CAM PROMODEL/ HYDROFLEX

5'9.5" × 18.55" × 2.25" (25.9L)

The biggest adjustment for this design in 2015 has been a slightly lower nose rocker with more curve and concaves in the fin area for more radical surfing. It's a blend between the rockers of the Hungry Man and the template of the Mr. Clean. Cam Richards has been ripping harder this year than ever, and his feedback has never been so positive. Order yours HydroflexEpoxy vacuum-bagged on a regular poly blank. The liveliness truly is incredible! Feel the difference! Follow @AJW_BehindtheMask for more info.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
ROUND / ROUNDED-SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD



ARROW HEAD 2015

5'10" × 19.55" × 2.29" (28L)

This is the exact design a few guys we know have been flipping out over... Literally! A tiny-wave contest machine with tons of hidden volume. This thing flies in nothing and is extremely responsive in weak waves. We took the same bottom curve and concaves from the StepRail PL3, and added that same board concept to a older winged swallow. And we put a little notch-tail just for fun. The feedback has been amazing! Minor adjustments for extra drive in 2015!

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
WINGED-NOTCHED SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD



PL2

5'8" × 20" × 2.3" (27.9L)

This is our best-selling design, a guaranteed safe and fun board for everyone! Wide enough for everyday mush waves, yet still has the same rocker and fin placement as the Original Potato Launcher and can sideslip into some throaty barrels. The proof is in the pudding: it's amazing how many happy customers have reordered this design year after year!

FINS
5-FIN
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD



LARMO COLLAB.

5'4" × 21.25" × 2.25" (30.1L)

Larmo is a shaping fanatic! Boards all need that natural glide to maintain speed: that's the key where Larry Mabile's expertise really shines. Function always beats fashion. He's an incredible shaper and is someone we personally look up to. We are very proud to be doing a fun little collaboration for 2015. Larmo's classic scoop-nose is a proven board for any tiny day. We shrunk the width and thickness just a hair to still allow for extra liveliness. Limited run for 2015.

FINS
TWINZER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH OR ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST



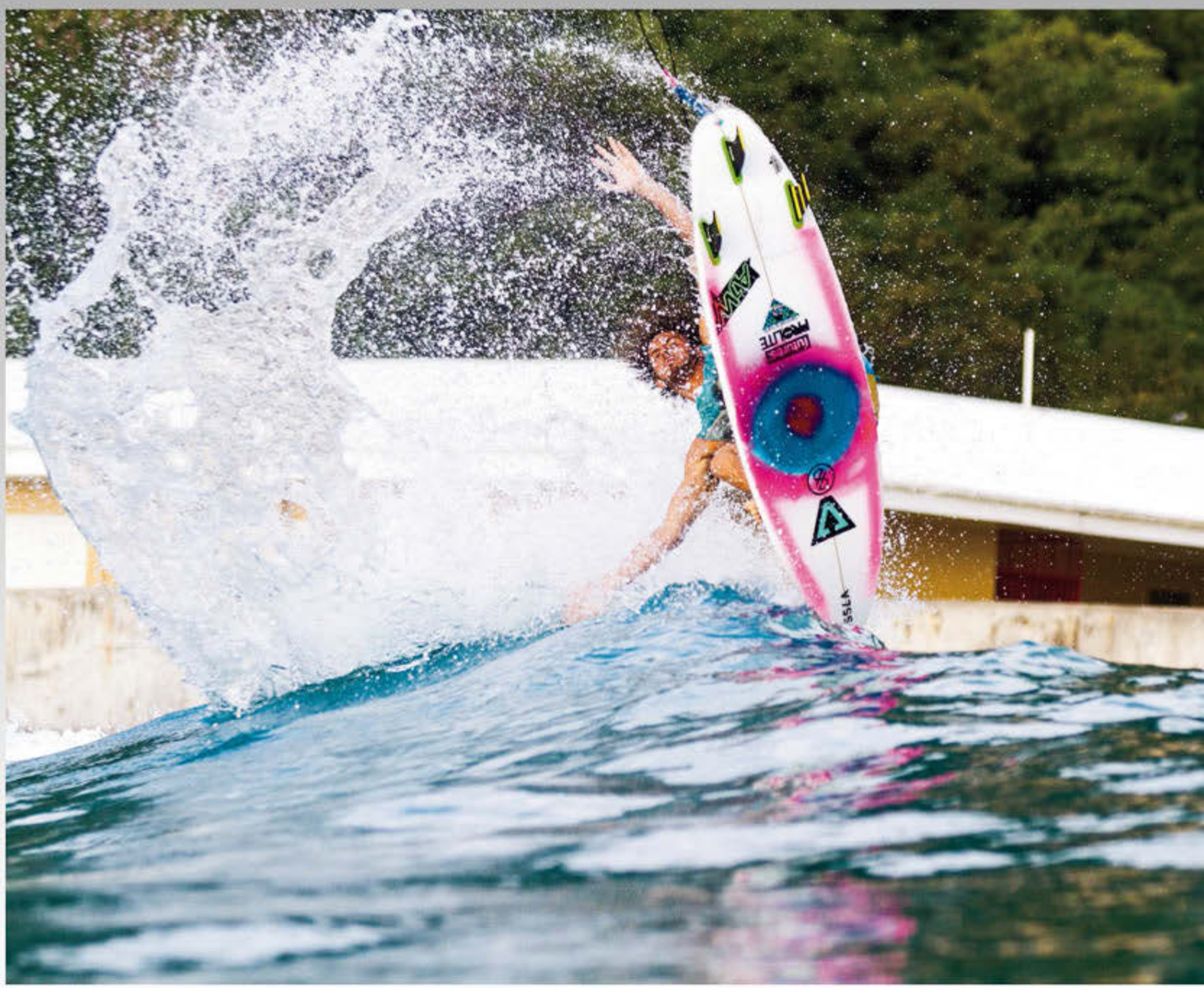
ALLIGATOR ARM

5'11" × 19" × 2.32" (28.2L)

Feel like you have alligator arms and you can't dig deep enough? This little bad boy will give you the little extra glide and speed that you need. This goes along with our one-board quiver concept: a very low, all-around rocker with extra foam in the chest for paddling. Still maneuverable and forgiving. A fast and easy-to-control ride. Much like a shortboard version of the PL2.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

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CAM RICHARDS

ALBUM SURFBOARDS

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ALBUMSURFBOARDS.COM



Shaper: Matt Parker
Year Started Shaping: 2001
Boards Shaped: 4,500

What's your shaping philosophy?
Unlock the cleanest line. Find and spread the stoke.

What are your most popular models?
The Polyphonic for everyday versatility. The Symphony for small waves. The Ledge as a step-up in larger, more critical surf. The Doom as a fish alternative. The Reboot is our go-to performance shortboard for everyday weak-to-average, decent surf.

What is unique about the boards you shape?
For the most part, they're all custom, so there is a lot of variety in the types of boards we make, from modern, high-performance shortboards to stubbies to concave deck hybrids to mid-lengths, alternative step-ups, classic logs, etc. Something for everyday and for all kinds of waves. We specialize in unique resin and artwork that we marry with boards that work.

How is your shaping influenced by your location?
San Clemente is an amazing place to be based for the last 12 years. Lots of talented shapers and designers putting out great stuff. I feel really lucky to surf here everyday too. There's something for any kind of board I feel like experimenting with. Punchy beach breaks, cruisey points, Lowers, San O. There's always something to surf.

Are there any new technologies you're integrating into your shapes?
We dabble in all the new tech: from Varial foam, Hydroflex, Keahana, EPS/epoxy, stingerless, carbon fiber, epoxy resin over PU, etc. We love traditional PU/PE, but we're always open to experimenting with anything. We do a majority of our board building at our factory in-house.

What advice would you give to customers to help them get the best board possible?
Really think about where you surf everyday, what kinds of waves and conditions you deal with. Then really think about what you're doing on the wave. Are you just cruising and trimming, looking for speed down the line? Are you carving, getting on rail? Are you looking to throw the tail and play around with the lip? Are you trying to get barreled? Think about boards that are going to push you where you want to take your surfing. Think about what aspects are missing or lacking in your surfing. Watch yourself on video and then take a long, hard look in the mirror.

What trends (shapes, aesthetics, etc.) in board design are affecting your lineup this year?
Everything goes! Which makes it really fun I think. No rules about what you're supposed to be riding allows for a lot more experimentation and more variety in a surfer's quiver.

What's the biggest lesson learned in your shaping career?
Communication is key to unlocking the maximum stoke. Don't be afraid to experiment. Be open-minded to old and new things.

What is your biggest shaping influence?
Surfing everyday.

WILDERNESS | DOOM | RE//BOOT



WILDERNESS
6'9" × 20" × 2.75" (43.3L)

We took the concept of a traditional fish and reconfigured it into a template that works as a completely functional step-up in good waves or a board that flows with speed and drive off a longer rail line in average surf. Take it to Blacks on a good day to get in early and get piped. Or, paddle it out on a burger high tide morning and fly. Unlimited speed. Go narrower for more of a step-up, go a little wider for average surf.

FINS
TWIN / QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW / JET
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

DOOM
5'9" × 20.5" × 2.25" or 2.5" (34.3L)

Fuller outline with a concave deck, feels like you're riding and driving inside the board. Lets you really leverage the foam in the rail for speed and precise turning. Super fast, loose, skatey feel. Ideal for waves under head high. Single concave to vee. Order 6" to 8" shorter than your normal board. Super lively and drivey shape. Put a spark into your small-wave shredding.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
DIAMOND / SQUASH / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO HEAD HIGH

REBOOT
5'9" × 19" × 2.32" (27.4L)

Low and fast with hidden foam where you need it. Feels like you're cheating even though it looks like you're riding a shortboard. Really low-entry rocker, relaxed outline, made to ride shorter (ride a 5'11" if you normally ride a 6'1" shortboard). Fun, fun, fun. This is the only board a couple of our guys ride.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / SPLIT / SQUARE / DIAMOND / SWALLOW / THUMB
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

BOARDLAMS.COM

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BOARDLAMS.COM











YOUR ARTIST
6'6" × 20.5" × 2.5" (38L)

Tim Bessell's Artist Series featuring the legendary artwork of Andy Warhol. Tim's goal for the Artist Series is to create the most beautiful surfboards possible, while paying homage to the artists who have inspired him the most. The Artist Series project required a surfboard graphics material that could reproduce the beautiful color work of Warhol while integrating seamlessly with the surfboard manufacturing process. Our BoardLams Fabric fits the bill.

YOUR MARKETING
7' × 20.75 " × 2.75"

A promotional board created for Hagerty Insurance. Hagerty specializes in insurance for antique and vintage autos and wooden boats. Hagerty collaborated with BoardLams.com to create a design that represented the vintage cars and boats that they insure. Leveraging our new BoardLams Fiberglass, we laminated this beauty in printed wood grain and leveraged our Premium lam and logo printing. BoardLams Fiberglass is a giant leap for graphics integration in board manufacturing.

YOUR BRAND
8' × 22" × 2.78"

Branding board built for Pelagic High Performance Offshore Gear. Pelagic knows fishing, and this board reinforces that fact and the brand's identity. Featured in the Pelagic booth at the Fred Hall outdoor recreation show in Long Beach, this show piece was built by PureGlass in Costa Mesa using our BoardLams Ricepaper. Our custom graphics-to-board outline matching service ensured that this graphic was a perfect fit and simplified its installation.

YOUR FUNDRAISER
7'6" × 21.5" × 2.75"

Gift basket or surfboard, which would you bid on? Newport Beach Elementary's "Hula for Moola" is an annual fundraiser to help support the schools programs and educational goals. This board was built for the auction and features scenes from the school and surrounding area. Sure to help the cause and fetch some donations, this board was built by PureGlass in Costa Mesa using our BoardLams Ricepaper. We've got your board customization covered, from the smallest detail designs to the largest of full board graphics.

YOUR DESIGN
5'10" × 19.3" × 2.2"

With our online BoardLams Customizer you can design and create your own customized BoardLams products for your board. Choose from our stock design, upload your own, or get creative with our design tools. "Gato Loco" was designed by 8-year-old Mikel. We have the experience and capacity to create BoardLams in any size and quantity you need. We have products and solutions for board riders and board builders from beginners to pros. Call, click or email. We are glad to help.











CANNIBAL SURFBOARDS / COREVAC COMPOSITES

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COREVACCOMPOSITES.COM



COVERT SB2015
5'10" × 18½" × 2¼" (26.9L)

This is our shortboard for advanced surfers. Like all our boards, it's built with the CoreVac vacuum-bagged aerospace materials and technology. Designed to be faster, lighter, and stronger with five layers of aerospace glass and synthetic ballistic fibers on top and three layers on the bottom. This board is optimal for quick rail-to-rail transition off the bottom and high speed. This is the performance surfer's must-have model. Built for a superior ride.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH / DIAMOND SQUASH / THUMB / ROUNDED PIN / SWALLOW
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO REALLY BIG

LAUNCH PAD
5'8" × 18⅝" × 2.22" (24.5L)

Launch Pad has a slightly relaxed rocker that will work in most conditions. It's very fast through slower sections with ample tail rocker to go rail-to-rail and explode off the lip. Order with a 1/2" to 3/4" more width and 1" to 3" shorter than your standard shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / DIAMOND SQUASH / THUMB / ROUNDED PIN / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

RUNT
5'8" × 19" × 2 5/16" (27.7L)

The Runt is our newest compressed shortboard. Acts like a shortboard with its drive and maneuverability and a fish in its overall length. We minimized the outline to feel responsive, while allowing the rider to maintain tail pressure and control in all turns and conditions. We suggest ordering 3" to 4" shorter and 1/4" to 3/4" wider than your typical shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / DIAMOND SQUASH / THUMB / ROUNDED PIN / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

DOUBLE UP
5'10" × 19 ¼" × 2 5/16" (28.3L)

The Double Up is our next evolution in shortboard/fish hybrids. It's like our RPG model with a slightly less aggressive wing, allowing for a looser, wider tail and smoother feel through turns. This board is agile enough to put you anywhere on the wave and full enough to carry you through the flat sections. Can be ordered as much as 5" shorter than your standard shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
DIAMOND SQUASH / ROUNDED PIN / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO REALLY BIG

BULLET
5'9" × 20¼" × 2⅜" (30.2L)

The Bullet is fast. This board is slick in its overall design, with a deep-slotted wing holding the outline straighter for blistering speed, while also utilizing that same wing to pivot off the bottom for very explosive turns. This is one of our fuller progressive shortboard/fish outlines and can be ridden at a much shorter length.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

CARVER SKATEBOARDS

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TYLER RIDDLER
9'8" – 10' × 23½" × 3¼"

A truly unique take on the evolution of the traditional noserider, the Riddler combines tight, effortless turning with highly developed noseriding ability. The winged outline and down-rail combined with the blunt-nose design translate directly to enhanced responsiveness from both tail and tip. A classic Tyler Advanced Traditional design.

FINS
Single-fin

TYLER RIDDLER SKATEBOARD
35½" × 9⅞"

Designed with Tyler for the local hills and alleys of El Segundo, the Riddler surfskate picks up on the interstitial space between longboard trimming and maneuverable carving. The mid-sized deck is long enough to move around on while still keeping the responsive turning characteristics of the Riddler. A great transitional size that will help longboarders practice cutbacks and strengthen maneuvers on the wave. It features a single concave down the length and a proper kicktail for pivot turns and acid drops. Recommended with the C7 truck set for flowing single-fin performance.

CARVER PROTEUS
5'11" × 21½" × 2⅞"

The Proteus is Carver's skateboard-inspired surfboard. Built for having fun in a wide range of conditions, the straighter rail is fast down the line while the clipped nose reduces swing weight and shortens the turn arc. The Proteus combines the easy paddle of a bigger board with the snappy turning of a stubby sled. The 9" tail block adds extra lift without being too buoyant, giving you more control when the bigger sets roll in. A single-concave entry flows into a concave vee through the tail for fast pumping and easy rail-to-rail transitions.

FINS
5-fin

CARVER PROTEUS SKATEBOARD
30½" × 9⅞"

For true surf/skate cross-training, we made a matching skate so what you learn on land can be easily transferred to the waves. The wider nose allows you to stretch your stance over the trucks for full control while still preserving the snappy performance characteristics of a stubby deck. The spoon nose flows into a single concave with a proper kicktail for ollies and curb hops. Recommended with the CX truck set for snappy thruster/quad performance.

VON SOL FLYING MANTA
5'6" × 21¾" × 2⅝"

A fast small-wave board, the Flying Manta has you doing full, wrap-around cutbacks with no loss of speed even in smaller inside sections. The wide tail generates heaps of energy, and the single-entry concave to double concave through the tail helps transition heel-to-toe more smoothly. Works great as a 5-fin set-up with Von Sol's innovative 'Nubster' fifth fin for more control in bigger surf.

FINS
5-fin

VON SOL FLYING MANTA SKATEBOARD
31½" × 9¾"

Carver skateboards have long been used as a training tool for surfing, so it was natural to work with a respected coach like Sean Mattison to develop techniques for surf/skate cross-training. We rode extensively with Sean to dial-in the right feel for his surfskate. The Manta surfboard was already designed to feel skatey, so it was easy to match the feel. We mounted the front truck to the inclined spoon nose, increasing the responsiveness and turning arc so it has that quick Manta pump. Recommended with the CX truck set for snappy quad performance.

CHANNEL ISLANDS SURFBOARDS



HIGH 5
5'6" × 19⅞" × 2 9⁄16" (30.5L)

The High 5 was cooked up by CI staff to be fun and forgiving with performance sprinkled in. Designed to be a quicker and nimbler offspring of the Average Joe, the High 5 will pad your wave count and still allow for rail work and section making. The bottom is single concave entry to deep double through the fins and terminating with deep concave vee out the tail. Comes stock with 5-fin boxes and can be ridden as a quad or thruster. You can ride the High 5 however you want, but CI staff generally rides it 3" to 5" shorter than our height.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENC
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD



GIRABBIT
6'0 × 19" × 2 7⁄16" (29.1L)

Jordy looks to his Girabbit design when the waves have some push. Best used as an all-around shortboard for above average surf. Single concave throughout means the Girabbit works best on rail. A fairly aggressive tail curve allows for tight radius turns. Ride this board 1" to 3" longer than you are tall. Jordy is 6'3", 190 lbs. and rides his Girabbit 6'3 × 19 1/4" × 2 5/8" at 33.1L.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD



ROOK 15
5'10" × 18⅝" × 2 ¼" (25.6L)

First seen on the WCT tour in 2010, the Rook 15 has been rediscovered by our entire CT team this year; Seabass, Kelly, Adriano, Lakey, Bianca, Sage, and Kai all have won heats on the new Rook 15. Ridden shorter and wider than the original, the Rook 15 is the ultimate contest workhorse. Single concave throughout, the Rook 15 works best when on rail. Ride this board at your same height to 2" longer.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

ZEUS

TACO GRINDER

POD MOD







ZEUS
6'0 × 19" × 2 7/16" (29.1L)

Taylor Knox calls the Zeus "a quick and loose all-around performance shortboard." Taylor's personal board is 6'0 × 19" × 2 1/2" at 29.6L. The bottom contours are very light single entry, to double concave through the fins, to concave vee exit. The Zeus can be ridden as a squash, swallow, or round pin in waves from waist to ceiling high. More of a tapered rail than Taylor's past models including the Dagger and Fort Knox. Ride this board your same height to 2" longer.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

TACO GRINDER
6'3" × 18 7/8" × 2 3/8" (29.1L)

Originating as a board for navigating long barrels in Mexico, the Taco Grinder is a direct result of the CI team demanding shortboard performance in waves that require a semi-gun or step-up. The bottom is single concave throughout, and a fuller rail and tail kick make it a good paddler that still goes vertical. In short, a versatile high-performance step-up designed for advanced surfers who want to take their good-wave performance to the next level. Ride this board the same width and thickness as your all-around performance board, but 2" to 6" longer depending on how big the waves are.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
ADVANCED – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
HEAD TO REALLY BIG

POD MOD
5'6" × 20 3/8" × 2 ½" (31.3L)

In 2000, the original Pod rapidly became a global favorite, allowing surfers to drop 6" off their shortboards and revolutionize punting. The Pod Mod design is a heavily modified Pod, designed to be ridden even shorter and wider than the original, catering to the surfer that wants a little more volume forward to catch waves but doesn't want to sacrifice performance. The tail has been widened for small-wave glide, and the original single-to-double concave has been replaced with a flat entry to concave vee for quick rail-to-rail transitions. Experienced surfers ride this board 3" to 6" shorter than they are tall.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

CHEMISTRY SURFBOARDS

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Shaper: Jason Bennett
Year started shaping: 2001
Boards Shaped: 10,000+

What's your shaping philosophy?
My shaping philosophy is to keep it simple. The more bells and whistles you add to a board, the more issues you run into. With a simplistic design, the boards have a consistent rate of performing better.

Who is your biggest shaping influence?
My biggest influence in shaping high-performance surfboards would be Simon Anderson.

What inspires you in your shaping life?
The younger generation.

What are your most popular models?
Flashpoint, Honey Dip, Beaker Comp. and Chem Zen.

What is unique about the boards you shape?
Each year, our new models are hand-shaped by myself and ridden by my team to get feedback until they are perfected. Then we take those models to get scanned and reproduced for the general public.

How is your shaping influenced by your location?
I believe we are in the hub (Oceanside) of surfboard manufacturing in California. I am constantly bouncing ideas off other board manufacturers, and all the technology is readily available in our area. We are also fortunate to live in a wave rich area. You can get tubed down in Baja, surf a high-performance wave like Lowers, or cruise the reefs down in Cardiff.

Are there any new technologies you're integrating into your shapes?
We offer all current technologies including XTR, Hydroflex, Future Flex, Keahana, and EPS.

What advice would you give to customers to help them get the best board possible?
Let us know what you're currently riding, and the pros and cons of your current board so we can dissect the issues and get you a custom shape that is tailored to your surfing.

What's the biggest lesson learned in your shaping career?
You are only as good as the last board you shaped.



D3
5'1" × 18⅝" × 2 1/16" (21L)

Based off of our popular Disk series and the success of our Disk 2 model, the D3 takes it to the next level. It's more high-performance but loses no fun. We added more entry and tail rocker to the Disk 2 while slightly pulling in the nose and tail. The bottom contour is a deep double-barrel concave feeding off the tail. This model works well as a quad or thruster, so it is equipped with a 5-fin set up. The D3 model is the perfect board to cheat on, while still being able to surf progressively in waves from knee to head high. The perfect, everyday board when surfing below average waves is the norm.

BEAKER COMP
5'6" × 19¼" × 2¼" (26.5L)

The Beaker Comp was spawned from the demand to make our Beaker model more high-performance. We took our Beaker model and reduced the overall volume in the nose and tail, which has allowed this model to work really well in the pocket and react quicker through turns. The rocker is still relatively low, to help provide that vital speed needed to excel in smaller waves. We also added very hard wings compared to the subtle double bumps of the Beaker. The wings have proven to help the Beaker Comp's maneuverability in various wave types. This model is a favorite of our team riders, giving them the ability to "cheat" in smaller waves without it looking like they are riding fish-style boards.

FLASHPOINT
5'8" × 19⅜" × 2⅜" (27.4L)

Brought into the product line by popular demand, the Flashpoint has been a favorite of customers and team riders. By far the most user-friendly board model in our high-performance line. It excels in any type of surf, from ankle high to a few feet overhead. This board has more width in the nose and tail, which helps it plane easier and maintain speed. It also has a relaxed rocker, making it a great paddler. A perfect high-performance board to complement anyone's quiver. This model usually becomes the board people ride on a daily basis. To excel in smaller waves, order this model 2" shorter and 1/2"-1" wider than your standard shortboard. Order it at your standard shortboard dimensions and feel the benefits of a wider nose and tail, with a lower rocker.

HONEY DIP
6'0" × 19" × 2⅜" (28L)

Extensive R&D went down in the creation of this model to create a high-performance shortboard that excels in every type of wave. The blind "taste test" went on for almost a year. The Honey Dip has a relaxed entry rocker with a single concave feeding into a deep vee off the tail. We widened the tail block 1/2" more than our standard shortboard models, which helped create the straighter outline in the back half of the board and speed unlike any other shortboard we have designed. The tail also boasts an extreme hip, creating a "sweet spot" for increased maneuverability without the loss of speed. Lastly, the fin cluster is pushed back because of the tail width and hip, enabling maximum control without the drifty feel usually associated with wider tail blocks and hips.

DAN TAYLOR SURFBOARDS

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DTSURF.COM



BLT
5'7" × 19¼" × 2⅜"

It's not named after a sandwich, but is a close relative to our Burger Beater model. This board makes those mushy days seem a lot better. It has a conventional rocker, similar to a high-performance shortboard. The concave is a single-to-double that starts 18" from the tail. Full rails and wider all-around. We recommend riding this board 2" to 3" shorter, but going wider and thicker than your normal board dimensions.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

FRESH ONE
5'10" × 19" × 2¼"

An upgrade from our New 1, this board is your go-to when the waves are fun to epic. It has a conventional rocker with a bit more in the nose. The concave is a deep single-to-double that starts 24" up from the tail. A toned-down rail shape, and wider nose that helps with paddle speed. Performs best in top-to-bottom surfing. We recommend riding your go-to normal board dimensions, or 1" shorter and a hair wider.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH / ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

RAID
5'6" × 19½" × 2 5/16"

It's our roach killer that has a fairly flat rocker though the middle of the board. Here's where it gets tricky: a single-to-double concave turning into a spiral vee 12" from the tail helps push the water and gets you around those flat spots. Rails are full-to-over-easy, and the board comes with a double-winged dove tail. For the Raid we recommend going 3" to 4" shorter than your normal board, but making it up with some extra width and thickness.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD /5-FIN
TAIL
DOVE / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ROTTEN EGG
7'2" × 22" × 2⅞"

The perfect board for those soft, summertime blues. The Rotten Egg is a blast for all. Everyone enjoys these boards, from beginners to advanced surfers. This single-fin is fast and easy to turn. It has a flatter rocker that turns to a vee-tail through the back. These boards paddle effortlessly and glide into surf. Most people prefer a gloss and polish finish or some color work, giving the board a cool retro look. Board is offered in any size imaginable.

FINS
SINGLE-FIN
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

CLASSIC
9'8" × 23½" × 3"

Exactly as the name suggests, the Classic is an old-style longboard with 50/50 rails and a single-fin box. This board is perfect for trimming, carving, and walking the nose.
We offer a wide variety of extras: from step-decks, cloth inlays, pigmented resin colors and Volan. We will provide whatever you choose for your custom design.

FINS
SINGLE-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

DMZ SURFBOARDS

7501 SLATER AVE, SUITE L, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647
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DMZSURFBOARDS.COM



Shaper: Dave Moore
Year Started Shaping: 2000
Boards Shaped: A lot

What's your shaping philosophy?
The freedom of creativity allows for the fusion of form and function. I intuitively feel what I want out of a board. I think about how the water will flow under the board and on top in the rear tail area. I create my bottom according to the hydrodynamic function and the reaction/response the board will have in turn and release. So many hull designs have been done throughout time, and I have studied a wide range of work.

Who is your biggest shaping influence?
Biolos, Tokoro, Handley, Stevens, and Cino are my inspiration for shapes, and Mark Nakashima for board production. Mostly I respect the craftsmen, the ones that have paid their dues with the planer as well as in the lam room. I'm self-taught primarily, and proudly give props to the crew at Chuck Dent in Huntington Beach.

How is your shaping influenced by your location?
Location is everything! We have lots of talent and consistent waves here in Southern California. I also share a shop with Janessa Bookout, a local mixed-media fine artist. She helped me bring my artistic side out, and I help her with technical advice. I produce limited boards and do collaborative projects with her. I also have Mark Nakashima three doors down for all my production needs.

What trends (shapes, aesthetics, etc.) in board design are affecting your lineup this year?
Compression designs seem to be the big trend. Shorten and slightly widen, but keep them drivey. I dig out concave for stability and speed. I shape wider noses for stomp factor and paddle assistance in big surf. I design a special rocker to emulate a high-performance shortboard. We are developing shortboards to work in a wide range of surf.

Are there any new technologies you're integrating into your shapes?
I offer epoxy and Entropy resin if custom-ordered. I like the eco-friendly concept and will do what is right in protecting our environment. At this stage, I prefer hand lay-up epoxy with carbon flex patterns. We mainly make surfboards the old fashion PU way, because so far they perform the best overall, but I'm always experimenting with new stuff.



THE FRONTLINE "STEP UP"
6'6" × 18⅞" × 2½"

The smallest of the Frontline series, the "Step Up" is the go-to for overhead plus conditions. The round tail allows for maneuverability without catching rail. This step-up has a slight single-barrel concave from entry through the belly, tapering into a slight recessed double-concave flowing to a vee out the tail. This will increase your ability to do deep bottom turns at high speeds without losing stability. The Frontline "Step Up" is a true gem, hand-shaped by Dave Moore.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
HEAD HIGH TO REALLY BIG

THE FRONTLINE "50 CAL"
7'6" × 19 ¼" × 2 11/16"

The Frontline "50 Cal" is the board you can trust. This board has been rider-tested around the world and is ready for release. You can pull off drops and make barrels because you are surfing with confidence on the "50 Cal". This board has an elevated nose rocker with a very slight concave entry through the belly into a slightly recessed double concave, to a slight vee off the tail. The "50 Cal" is the board to have when you put it all on the line. Hand-shaped by Dave Moore.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
ADVANCED – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

THE JOYSTICK
5'5" × 18⅜" × 2⅜"

The Joystick is the model for the "compression craze" when you want something shorter and wider. This is our most versatile and adaptable board for any condition. Great for a mushy day and even better when the waves are good. The Joystick helps you keep the stoke alive. Hand-shaped by Dave Moore.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

THE SICK-LID (HYBRID)
6'4" × 22" × 2⅞"

The original Sick-lid has been tested, re-tested, and is proven to be fun. Catch every wave with this fish. The side cut gives this wide board a rear contact point and adds more tail lift, so it becomes a fast cruiser. The Sick-Lid rides like a Caddy with suspension in a wide, thicker board. This is a super fun board that allows you to turn off that contact point. This is a must-have for a longboard surfer who wants to try something shorter. This board is user-friendly and truly unique to DMZ. Hand-shaped by Dave Moore.

FINS
QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

7S — UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL

855.474.6821 / INFO@SURFINDUSTRIES.COM
SURFINDUSTRIES.COM/7S



Designer Name: Richie Lovett
Year Started Designing: 2006
Boards Designed: 100's

What's your shaping philosophy?
I actually prefer designer to shaper, even though I love to get dusty when I'm making boards for myself, friends, custom orders, or if I'm prototyping a new design. I personally test all my shapes so if it doesn't work for me then it doesn't get a start. With that being said, my philosophy is to marry all the curves on a board: rocker, deck line, foil, and concaves. All the features should complement each other aesthetically and functionally to produce a shape that works in the water.

Who is your biggest shaping influence?
Over the years, I've worked with shapers like Greg Webber, Luke Short, Chris Goulding, Lee Stacey, and Simon Anderson. I've ridden their boards at an elite level during my professional career on tour, so to take that knowledge and translate it into my own designs is a real bonus. Webber's probably had the biggest influence when it comes to understanding the correlation between surfboard curves and how they fit the contours of the waves.

What inspires you in your shaping life?
Watching waves and imagining how I'd like to ride them really inspires me. There's the performance end of the design spectrum, which is all about working in the critical part of the wave, and then there's the zone that helps regular surfers reach their full potential. For me the latter is the most satisfying; designing boards that hold their speed, respond quickly, and essentially make performance surfing easier and more accessible for everyone.

What are your most popular models?
The 7S SF3 and the 7S Slipstream. The Superfish has been around for years, it's a functional design that allows novice and intermediate surfers to really progress their surfing. The Slipstream would be my favorite board. It's a true performance hybrid. After having hip surgery I needed a board that could get me back to surfing at a high level again, and this board ticks all the boxes.

What is unique about the boards you design?
My shapes have clean lines with all the curves connecting in the right places, and above all they're functional and designed with a purpose in mind. I don't add design features just to make them unique. I believe that's when you potentially jeopardize the boards' performance.

RICHIE LOVETT



SF3 | Slipstream | SALT SHAKER



SF3 (SUPERFISH III)

6'0"–8'0" × 20 ¼"–23" × 2⅜"–3" (31–61L)

There's a reason why the Superfish is the best-selling surfboard model in our line. This high-volume modern fish has broad usability allowing you to tap into your full surfing potential. Every design element on this board has been geared so you can catch more waves than anyone else in the lineup and confidently take on every wave with the intention of honing your skills and progressing your surfing performance.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
CURVED SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE — INTERMEDIATE
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

SLIPSTREAM

5'5"–6'9" × 19"–21 ¼" × 2 3/16"–2 ¾" (23.55–41.65L)

After losing some power in his back leg post-hip surgery, Richie Lovett designed this model with more surface area up front, a flatter rocker, and a refined shortboard tail, all with the intention of making performance surfing easy. A true hybrid shape, this little gem adapts to all conditions, gives you immediate acceleration when driving off your front foot, yet still allows for those critical maneuvers in steeper sections.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
IMMEDIATE — PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

SALT SHAKER

5'6"–6'6" × 19 ¼"–21 ½" × 2 ¼"–2 ¾" (24.35–39.25L)

You'll capitalize on every opportunity the ocean dishes up with this one! Having spent years surfing at the elite level, Richie designed this board to offer shortboard performance with the advantage of having some additional stability and flow under your feet. Extra width in the center creates a stable work zone, the tapered nose and curved outline fit with the contours of the wave allowing tight turns and fast rail transitions.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
ADVANCED — PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

FIREWIRE SURFBOARDS











THE CORNICE
5'7" × 17 ½" × 2 ½" (28.6L)

The Cornice's collaborative design process between Trinity Technologies, Dan Mann, and Firewire proves that the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts. The side cut shifts volume from the middle of the board towards the tail, leading to the most effective area in contact with the water. The board literally displaces less water, leading to minimal friction and increased speed that is noticeable.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
BEAVER
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

SPITFIRE
5'10" × 20 ¼" × 2 ½" (33.L)

Based on the Dominator's DNA, the Spitfire's performance was increased with the addition of a diamond tail and the step rail through the tail, allowing the board to perform at a high level in 2-foot to overhead surf, while still maintaining the overall volume and resultant wave-catching ability.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

BAKED POTATO
5'5" × 21 ¾" × 2 ½" (36L)

Primarily designed for smaller, weaker conditions, the Baked Potato will surprise you with its performance characteristics. In particular, the quad fins are set further back and closer to the rail than usual, allowing the board to hold through tight turns without sliding, even in larger surf.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

SUBMOON
7'6" × 22 ½" × 2 15/16" (50.7L)

The Submoon is the ultimate funshape. Nev Hyman explains: "We combined a contemporary rocker and concaves and even thickness distribution with a quirky funshape outline that encourages a more vertical shortboard approach to the traditional longboard style of surfing. The outline has generous curve between your feet, which encourages the board to get on rail and turn. The narrower moon tail provides bite, drive, and direction and the snub nose increases the nose area for some cheater-five fun.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
NEW MOON
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ADDVANCE
6'10" × 22 5/8" × 3 1/16" (56.9L)

The AddVance/ Surfrider Collab. model offers extreme flotation by combining the buoyancy of a longboard with a contemporary outline and opens up new possibilities for fun and performance in a wide range of conditions. ADDvance your surfing! Since 1984, the Surfrider Foundation has evolved into one of the largest non-profit grassroots organizations dedicated to protection of the ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network. Firewire will donate $75 to Surfrider for each board sold.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

2270 COSMOS CT. SUITE 120, CARLSBAD, CA 92011
760.893.8702
FIREWIRESURFBOARDS.COM



PYZALIEN
5'10" × 19" × 2 ¼" (28.4L)

The PyzAlien is a great all-around performance board, designed to keep speed and flow in weaker conditions, while feeling lively and loose in all types of waves. The fuller outline, wider tail, and slightly wider, flatter nose help to produce speed and drive, and make it a fast, easy paddler. For more advanced surfers, we recommend you ride this board around your height or 1" shorter.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

THE SLAB
6'0" × 19" × 2⅜" (28.7L)

The Slab by Pyzel represents John John Florence's ideas refined into his perfect freesurfing model. John John wanted 3" off the nose of his normal shortboard and an increased tail rocker. This resulted in a fuller nose, fatter top section, and an extremely high-performance fun board that goes well in a range of conditions.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

EVO
5'5" × 9 ½" × 2 ½" (30.5L)

This postmodern aquatic skateboard features a highly innovative "Q-I-S-C" (quad-inside-single-concave) Planing Hull, which generates an incredible degree of lift. In addition, once on a rail, the concaved edges engage instantaneously, enabling precise hold through turns.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

VADER
5'4" × 18⅛" × 2⅜" (27.3L)

The Vader reacts instantaneously to desired directional changes with incredible bursts of speed. Controlled, drawn out carves and radical snaps are achievable with an effortless and intuitive shift in a surfer's weight. In addition, the paddle power and generally usability have been increased with a larger volume distribution throughout comparative to the Vanguard, which encourages surfers to ride the Vader even shorter than previously considered functional.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

NANO
5'10" × 19 ¾" × 2⅝" (35.7L)

The original MPH (Modern Planing Hull). The Nano is the stock MPH and a true example of a 21st century modern thruster. It is a user-friendly, all-around board but a radical performer with free-flowing speed and a very natural, controlled ride. Effortlessly fast and loose, yet predictable and drivey, the Nano ticks all the boxes. The rider really feels as though they can pull off any maneuver and it rides with a very pure sensation of flow.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUARE
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

GREENLIGHT SURF SUPPLY

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GREENLIGHTSURFSUPPLY.COM

GreenlightSurfSupply.com

Shaper: You
Year Started Shaping: Today
Boards Shaped: First of many to come...

What's your shaping philosophy?
Pride in every ride. Building your own surfboards provides that ultimate feeling of satisfaction, knowing every aspect of your surfing: from your board's design, through the shaping and glassing process, to how you just pulled off the smoothest and most powerful cutback of your life. It's 100 percent you. Greenlight Surf Supply's core belief is every surfer deserves to experience this sensation and we've dedicated the past 10 years to developing surfboard building methods and instruction for all surfers, regardless of age or ability, to enjoy a new level of pride.

Who is your biggest shaping influence?
The biggest influence in shaping your own surfboards is not who, but how. How the water flows, attaches to, releases, and interacts with surfboard shapes absolutely influences the way you surf. With our engineering, physics, educational, and communication backgrounds, Greenlight is able to enlighten our surfer/shaper customers with our free Surfboard Design Newsletter emails about the dynamics of surfboards and water flow. You can design how you want your board to work before even cutting the outline. Nobody does more than Greenlight to help shape your surfing experience.

What inspires you in your shaping life?
Feeling a new feeling. Hitting the next level. Your next level of surfing starts the moment you receive that big box of potential with the Greenlight Logos all over it. Inside is a blank canvas of foam, fiberglass, fins, resin, and color waiting for you to finally take those visions of surfing in your mind and shape them into reality. Throughout the shaping process is an excited anticipation of how it's going to feel to ride this new creation. When you and your board hit the water and you get that first wave, the anticipation turns to inspiration. You feel that pride again and experience a deeper connection with surfing. It's addictive.

Are there any new technologies you're integrating into your shapes?
We're really into engineered EPS foam and epoxy resins at Greenlight. Not only are they more environmentally and user-friendly (epoxy resin doesn't smell when glassing, a big plus when you're building boards at home), but the boards are 5x stronger than traditional polyurethane/polyester boards. If you're building a board, might as well make it last. Also stringerless EPS blanks with strategically placed strips of carbon fiber affect the flex dynamic of the boards. Definitely a 'springy' feel with that kind of construction... different is good in surfing.

What advice would you give to customers to help them get the best board possible?
Build it yourself with Greenlight's kits, materials, tools, and instruction. You're missing out on a whole new level of stoke if you don't try to build at least one board in your lifetime.

What's the biggest lesson learned in your shaping career?
Mistakes can always be fixed when building surfboards. Every surfboard in the world, machine made or not, has flaws. Surfboard building is about the experience of the process and the reward of pride in your accomplishments as a surfer. Also, surfboards do not need to be sanded! They work the same, sanded or not.



THE SURFBOARD SHAPING STARTER KIT

Greenlight has developed this deluxe starter kit to make it easy for you to build your own quality, fun-to-ride surfboard. Our free instructional videos not only give you the knowledge and confidence to build surfboards, but they also show you situations to avoid during the building process that would normally ruin your efforts. No expensive power tools necessary, no special shaping bay either. You'll definitely discover a deeper connection with your surfing experience and attain a new level of stoke riding the surfboard you built with this kit! We've developed a special EPS foam packaging system that saves you about $100 in shipping costs! Again, nobody does more than Greenlight to help shape your surfing experience.

PU/PE SURFBOARD BUILDING KIT

Greenlight's Polyurethane Blank/ Polyester Resin Kits come complete with all the materials needed to build your own board. You can choose what kind of fin system you want (FCS, Futures, glass-on, etc.), the number of fins (single through 5-fin) and also determine the weight and strength of your board by choosing between a lightweight or standard fiberglass package. Not sure what this all means? You can always educate yourself by reading Greenlight's Surfboard Building Guide A-Z, available for free on our website.

EPS/EPOXY SURFBOARD BUILDING KIT

Thanks to three things, this is Greenlight Surf Supply's top-selling surfboard building kit. First, EPS/epoxy surfboards are stronger and more ding-resistant than the 60 year-old PU/PE board construction. Secondly, epoxy resin has no volatile chemical smell, so you can glass your board in your garage, basement, shed, or even outside with no worries of stinkin' the place out! Lastly, Greenlight's EPS/epoxy kits are shipped directly to your door for as cheap as possible. We've developed a special EPS foam packaging system that saves you about $100 in shipping costs! Again, nobody does more than Greenlight to help Shape Your Surfing Experience.

PANDA SURFBOARDS

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PANDASURFBOARDS.COM



DOINKER
5'5" × 20 ¾" × 2 5/16" (32.77L)

Weird and fun! This is such a fun, fast board for 1- to 3-foot waves. If it's small this thing will get you up and flying faster than any other board in your quiver.

FINS
QUAD
TAIL
WIDE SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

DOINKER EGG
5'6" × 20 1/8" × 2 1/4" (29.78L)

The latest addition to our Doinker series. Featuring the same nose outline as our OG Doinker but with a forward wide point, rolled vee through the nose to double concave through the fins and a pulled-in round pin tail, all allowing this board to really flow and drive while still performing tight in critical sections. This is a very versatile board that will suit many different styles and abilities. Think smooth.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND PIN
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

BEAR ESSENTIALS
5'4" × 20 1/4" × 2 1/4" (29.27L)

A more performance-orientated groveler compared to the Doinker. We have pulled in the nose and tail, also adding flip to the nose and giving you the option of a 5-fin setup. It features a single-to-deep double concave with concave vee through the tail and a crazy-looking diamond/ crescent tail. This shortens the rail line but gives bite at the same time, allowing for critical surfing in small waves. This is for the guy that wants to rip in tiny waves.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
CRESCENT
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

SYNTHETIC SALLY
5'7" × 19 3/8" × 2 1/4" (27.43L)

This is Ford Archbold's signature model. Ford likes to ride boards short, fat, and little. It features a flat deck with a low-beveled rail and beak nose, keeping it really stable and buoyant, yet allowing you to bury the rails. Combine this with a deep single concave for speed and drive. Features a flyer behind the side fins for release. Ride this 4" shorter, 1" wider, and at the same thickness as your standard shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

THE SWEET LEAF
5'8" × 18 7/8" × 2 5/16" (25.09L)

This is a new performance board. It's a workhorse for small-to-medium everyday Californian waves, especially little beach breaks. It's really playful with the curvy outline combined with a fast low rocker. Single-to-double concave to concave vee and boxy rails, keeping it higher in the water through turns. It's been designed with a generous amount of volume, which is important for average summer conditions, but still maintains performance and drive. Order 3" shorter than you are tall, 1/2" wider, and at same thickness as your standard shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
ROUND SQUARE / SWALLOW / THUMB
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

PROCTOR WORLDWIDE CUSTOM



Shaper: Todd Proctor
Year started shaping: 1992
Boards shaped: 30,000+

What's your shaping philosophy?
We believe that a board is not just "a board". We believe it is so much more...an instrument; a tune; a phrase that finds its balance; it's peace from the one-ness it harnesses with the rhythms of the ocean.

There is something special and otherworldly about a specifically tuned, finely crafted instrument that cannot be mass-produced. So what is it that truly brings forth that harmony we all desire?

A thoughtful creator's hand that cares about ultimate personal enrichment. The kind of personal enrichment whose rays splay out beyond the self, warming and blessing those in their path.

Have you ever seen an athlete who did not commit to a regimen, strive and train for weeks, months, years, yet still achieved the place of highest honor and received the great reward? Have you ever experienced wholesome, life-giving gourmet from McDonalds?

Have you ever seen a Stradivarius violin being sold for $10 at the Tijuana border crossing? No, that's because every part of the violin had a purpose and intent in mind for its final recipient. From its resonance, to its weight, to the strength of its neck and back...its strings...to its color and aesthetic appeal as a cherished signal of glorious sound and marvelous beauty. So, I ask you this, will we see this kind of thing on every street corner?

My goal is not to "make as many boards as I possibly can", or to "dominate the market", or have "a strategic business model". For me, it is much more than a job, it is a calling, and with a calling the main goal is blessing and enriching surfers' lives through personal interaction, custom design, and the highest quality craftsmanship. My desire is the creation of something sacred that will be cherished because of how it stokes the stoke of those who experience something beyond the norm.

The journey is the destination, I'm here to equip you for the journey. It's your board, talk to the shaper.



NICK ROZSA, CALM IN THE CRUCIBLE AT BACKDOOR. PHOTO: BRENT BIELMANN



RASCAL (RIDICULITE PROXY EPOXY)

5'4" × 19⅛" × 2¼" (26L)

This squatty firebrand has all the speed of a retro-style shape, but with the holding power of a modern board. Ridiculite suspension system creates increased torque and drive leading into, and following out of, maneuvers.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW / MOON /ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST HIGH

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HIDEOSCILLOUS | MONSTA HD | THE GHOST



HIDEOSCILLOUS
5'6" × 19¾" × 2 5/16" (28.4L)

The ugly duckling that transforms into a swan when you step foot on it. A small wave board where free-friction meets ultimate gougeability in a marriage of perfectly complementing design concepts.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
WIDE SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO HEAD HIGH

ROZSA'S MONSTA HD
5'8" × 19¼" × 2⅜" (27.2L)

Combines the outline and rails of the Monsta with the rocker and bottom of the Hideoscillous. Ideal for small-scale waves; incredible back foot control through on-rail full-speed cutties.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / THUMB
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE HIGH TO OVERHEAD

ROZSA'S TITANIUM II GHOST (INVERTED FULCRUM)
5'10" × 18⅞" × 2 5/16" (27L)

"Man oh man. Thing has a jet pack on it. Best I've surfed in waist-high surf in years. Never gone so fast. Super drivey and turns on a dime." –Nick Rozsa

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / THUMB
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE HIGH TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

THE MENDIA (INVERTED FULCRUM)
6'1" × 19" × 2½" (30L)

A board designed for timeless power surfing, gouging rail arcs, and big sprays. Made for deep barrels and goliath turns.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
THUMB / SQUASH / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE HIGH TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

CRUISE CONTROL
5'8" × 20" × 2½" (31L)

The crushed down longboardy/double-ender gig with the Hideoscillous rocker and bottom. Fast cruisin' on the trim, power controllin' in the turns. Single-fin with quad option. Modern retroactive.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND OR SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE HIGH TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

RUSTY SURFBOARDS



SISTA BROTHA
5'10" × 18.81" × 2.20" (26.2L)

Noa Deane's latest, the Sista Brotha, is developed from his freesurfing travels. This performance shortboard excels in conditions from beachbreaks to pointbreaks. The Sista Brotha features a single-to-double concave, moderate-entry rocker and a low tail rocker with a fuller rail, making this a lively board that allows Noa to execute his arsenal of maneuvers without thinking twice.

FINS
FCS II OR FUTURES THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

SWEET TOOTH
6'0" × 19.50" × 2.38" (29.2L)

Everyone has a Sweet Tooth that needs to be satisfied. The Sweet Tooth is the model you'll come back to again and again to conquer your craving. This is a slightly wider high-performance everyday shortboard. The deep single-concave bottom, low-entry rocker and aggressive tail rocker allow driving turns and tighter arcs. Primarily a round tail, some team riders also like the swallow tail or squash tail versions of this design.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN / FCS II OR FUTURES
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

SLAYER
6'2" × 19.5" × 2.5" - 2.89" (32.8L)

Josh Kerr's go-to board for bigger surf in Fiji, Tahiti, and at the Pipe Masters. The Slayer is designed as a step-up with 4" taken off the nose. It features added width to center, the wide point moved forward, a fuller nose, and a relaxed rocker. This combination allows it to paddle well, make drops and fit you into the barrel.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN / FCS II OR FUTURES
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO REALLY F_KING BIG

BLACKBIRD
6'8" × 20" × 2.74" (37.6L)

The Blackbird is designed to cover ground quickly, chase down peaks in open waters, and battle currents on those bigger days, it is the perfect wave-hawking weapon. It features added volume, an area-forward outline, lower entry rocker, and a slight single-to-double concave bottom running through the fins and tail. The Blackbird delivers smooth transitions and fast, clean lines. A heavy hitter for any arsenal!

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN / FCS II OR FUTURES
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
ADVANCED – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
HEAD HIGH TO REALLY F_KING BIG

PANDA
6'0" × 20.38" × 2.74" (35.4L)

Willian Cardoso, a.k.a. "Panda" is a big, powerful 200lb surfer known for throwing buckets. Panda is his go-to board for competition that provides float without sacrificing any of the performance attributes he relies on. The Panda combines tapered rails, a heavy single concave with medium rocker throughout, and a kick coming off the tail. The outline is curvy with a pronounced bump and a pulled-in squash tail.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN / FCS II OR FUTURES
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

8495 COMMERCE AVE., SAN DIEGO, CA 92121
858.578.0414
RUSTYSURFBOARDS.COM



FISH QUATRO
5'6" × 20.37" × 2.12" (30.0L)

The Fish Quatro opens up the performance window of the traditional fish while keeping the basic fish values, speed, and floatation intact. Combining a full rail and outline, with a single-to-double concave bottom with vee off the tail gives this board more skate, flow, vertical performance, and tighter arcs than any fish. This unique model features a concave deck that makes up for the decreased width.

FINS
FCS II OR FUTURES QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ROUNDTAIL DOZER
5'10" × 19.5" × 2.5" (30.7L)

The new Roundtail Dozer is a powerful high-performance shortboard that eats mediocre waves for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. This Dozer packs maximum volume into a shortboard outline. It's the chine in the rail near the forward fins and the accentuated vee through the tail that keeps you ahead of the pack.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN / FCS II OR FUTURES
TAIL
ROUND / SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

ROOSTER
5'9" × 19.75" × 2.37" (29.1L)

The Rooster came about because of a "what if" conversation with some of the team. It was loosely based on the Hustler. We changed the outline, rocker and Venturi configuration, so that the board would fit better in rounder waves, but still retain its performance in everyday surf. It was named after an enormous Jersey Giant Rooster who claims every morning...loudly!

FINS
FCS II OR FUTURES 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

ARC ANGEL
6'4" × 20.75" × 2.75" (39.8L)

The Arc Angel will have you drawing some of the cleanest arcs and roundhouse rail work you've ever imagined. A slightly fuller outline with low-entry rocker and a flatter deck, mixed with a simple single-to-double concave combination. Snappy beach breaks or down the line pointbreak surfing are what the Arc Angel lives for. Looking for a board that will handle a multitude of conditions? The Arc Angel could be it!

FINS
FCS II OR FUTURES 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

ZEPPELIN
6'10" × 22.37" × 3.18" (54.4L)

The Zeppelin is a hybrid that really likes to fly! This board is packed with foam and float where it counts, featuring a triple-concave bottom, a full outline, low entry and low tail rocker. The grab rails provide for a thinner, more positive-feeling rail that allows for smoother rail-to-rail transitions. Taking off now!

FINS
FCS II OR FUTURES 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ROBERTS SURFBOARDS

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805.658.6855 / INFO@ROBERTSSURF.COM
ROBERTSSURF.COM



THE DREAMCATCHER
6'1" × 20" × 2⅝" (35.93L)

The Dreamcatcher has everyday function due to its moderate rocker, full rails and a wider nose outline. A single-to-double concave bottom and pulled-in-thumb tail also help the board hold in big, hollow surf. This board has gone with surfers to destinations all around the world.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
PULLED-IN THUMB
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE TO OVERHEAD



MODERN GEM
5'8" × 18⅞" × 2⅜" (28.43L)

You don't have to dig deep to find this gem. The Modern Gem is a small-wave, high-performance shortboard with a single-concave bottom, low rockers and lots of speed. Being narrower than other small-wave boards makes it quicker rail-to-rail for fast, explosive turns in waves from knee to head high.

FINS
THRUSTER/ 5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE TO HEAD HIGH



MEAT CLEAVER
5'7" × 19⅜" × 2 5/16" (27.83L)

Our new Meat Cleaver model is a perfect all-around board. It can also be used as a step-up from our White Diamonds. Using the White Diamond 2 as a starting point, we carved out a board with a thinner foil, a little extra tail rocker, and a round tail. It has drive and speed for waist-high junk and a curvy package to handle tight turns at higher speeds and hollow, steep wave faces.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN
TAIL
THUMB
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE TO OVERHEAD



3DF
5'6" × 19⅜" × 2⅜" (29.88L)

This board features Varial Foam/ epoxy construction for strength and responsiveness. The 3DF is designed for speed, with a low rocker and a straighter rail line to make this board fast and fun, even in less-than-ideal surf. The chopped diamond nose and forward volume allows you to ride it shorter than most boards. The wide double-diamond tail provides speed, keeping it loose through turns.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
DIAMOND SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE TO OVERHEAD



DREAM MACHINE
6'0" × 22¼" × 2 13/16" (43.07L)

The Dream Machine is all about fun in the sun by going shorter, wider, flatter, and fuller for those small summer days. It features a rounded pintail for hold and a single-to-extreme double concave bottom for speed. For quick vertical performance groveling, increase your normal volume by .5 to 2 liters. Size it up bigger (2 to 4 liters), blending easy paddling performance and glide. Or go even bigger (5+ liters) for rolling on cruise control. Summer just got dreamy.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED THUMB
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO SHOULDER HIGH

SHARP EYE SURFBOARDS

3351 HANCOCK ST., SAN DIEGO, CA 92110
619.542.1088/MARCIOZOUVI@GMAIL.COM
SHARPEYESURFBOARDS.COM



DISCO
5'9" × 19.5" × 2.35" (26.5L)

Created for small-to-medium surf, The Disco is a high-performance small wave board that allows you to surf like your normal shortboard. The bottom has the most rocker compared to all other small wave designs and the outline is wider than the Glider model. You will go fast and turn tight on those small but fun days. The Disco should be ordered 4" to 6" smaller than your regular shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST HIGH

HOLY TOLEDO
5'8" × 18.25" × 2.25" (23.4L)

This 2015 design was created with Filipe's input. He envisioned a design that could generate maximum speed in order to enhance his aerial maneuvers. We started from The Game Changer design and modified the last half of the outline making it narrower and pulling in the tail. We then increased the tail rocker and added a pronounced single concave under the back foot. The thickness was increased at the chest area and the nose, while the rails were lowered. Filipe won the U.S. Open and also the 6-Star Prime event in Brazil riding the HT prototype.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
SMALL TO HEAD HIGH

OK MODEL
6'0" × 18.4" × 2.3" (25.3L)

Designed with Oliver Kurtz' input, this model is an all-around shortboard made for progressive surfing. This design has a low entry rocker, forward foil, and a massive amount of tail rocker allowing for very tight turns in the pocket.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

GAME CHANGER
5'10" × 18.5" × 2.21" (24.6L)

The Game Changer was created to bridge the gap between the Disco and the SB-10. It has low entry rocker, forward foil, and deep concave between the fins. A must-have board in your quiver.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

DISCO INFERNO
5'10" × 19" × 2.5" (27.5L)

This is for you, Disco lover! A Disco model adjusted to handle good waves. We kept a similar bottom configuration and rocker as the Disco with some minor changes to increase the drive and control in larger surf. Should be ordered 1" to 2" shorter than your shorboard.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
ALL LEVELS
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
SMALL TO HEAD HIGH

SURF PRESCRIPTIONS

17671 METZLER LN., HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647
714.842.4550 / MADLABRX@AOL.COM
SURFPRESCRIPTIONS.COM



BUSHWACKIN THANG
5'10" × 20.5" × 2.5" (31.84L)

The love affair with the 'Thang' is real. Trims like a single-fin and carves like a thruster. User-friendly, works in everything! This one glassed by Ghetto Fabulous.

FINS
GLASSED-ON KEELS AND CENTER BOX
TAIL
ALL
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

PRO IIVX
5'9" × 18.62" × 2.31" (25.68L)

We made more PRO IIs than any other Surf RX model by far, redesigned it for 2015 and the feedback is overwhelmingly positive. Basic single-to-double concave with neutral rails and neutral rocker. Predictable and consistent, works in everything. Perfect board for high-performance surfing in a wide range of conditions. Not broke, don't fix it. Well, maybe a little.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAILS
ALL
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
HEAD HIGH TO REALLY F__KING BIG

G MONEY II
5'9" × 19.25" × 2.25" (27.66L)

Size ranges from 5'6" to 10'6". It was originally made as a step-up but, but works in many conditions. Had great feedback on the original G Money, which I used to redesign the G Money II. It's better then the most popular models of 2015. Constructed in Varial Foam.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
MOSTLY ROUND BUT ALL TAILS WORK
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO REALLY F__KING BIG

NEW BUDDY
5'8" × 18.75" × 2.18" (24.52L)

A groveler designed for high-performance surfing in less-than-ideal conditions. A great addition to any surfer's quiver. Constructed with Varial Foam.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
BUMP SQUASH / ROUND / SWALLOW / BAT
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

F MONEY
6'0" × 18.75" × 2.38" (27.93L)

The F Money is the big brother of the New Buddy. It's made for bigger, better waves. When your New Buddy isn't fitting, the F Money is the choice. Constructed with Varial Foam.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
ALL
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO DOUBLE OVERHEAD

SR SURFBOARDS

888-802-7873 (SURF) / INFO@SURFRIDE.COM
SURFRIDE.COM



SILVER BULLET
5'6" × 19 ¾" × 2⅜" (28L)

The Silver Bullet is a fast board with low rocker and deep single concave. It has a nice balance of rail rocker and curve in the tail for maneuverability, plus plenty of nose volume for paddling.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST



BLACK CAT
5'7" × 19 ¼" × 2⅜" (27.5L)

The Black Cat is a board for small, waist-to-chest high surf. Low-entry rocker with a fair amount of tail rocker and a single concave throughout gets you in waves, but still lets you make turns and layback slashes. It's a poppy little firecracker that will give you the most performance out of a fat-nosed board, or your money back, guaranteed.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST HIGH



MAGIC CARPET
5'3" × 19 ¾" × 2⅜" (29L)

The magic carpet is short, wide, and fun! Surfers seem to really enjoy this shape in small California waves. Low-entry rocker, single-to-double concave to slight vee.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUND DIAMOND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST



FLIPPY HIPPY
5'10" × 18 ¾" × 2-⅜" (27L)

The Flippy Hippy is a time proven pissed-off model that goes fast and turns well. It has a flipped-up nose and tail with a flat spot between the stance for a nice balance of speed and maneuverability. The hips give the board a breaking point to "flip off".

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO HEAD HIGH



FUN SHIP
5'4" × 20 ½" × 2 ½" (32L)

The fun ship is fun. One pump and the board is flying. Sit back on the tail and steer it off the lip. It has a really flipped-up nose and a single-to-double concave to slight vee. This board is a blast in pointbreak waves. Stay shredding my friends.

FINS
QUAD
TAIL
HALF MOON DOG BONE
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

SURFTECH

5825 AVENIDA ENCINAS SUITE 104,
CARLSBAD, CA 92008
SURFTECH.COM











SURFTECH POWERFLEX "THUMBDRIVE"
5'8" - 6'0" × 20.2" × 2.5" (33.7L)

Each POWERflex board begins with a hand-crafted, dual-density foam blank that combines our proprietary fused-cell EPS foam with polyurethane to create a one-of-a-kind core. The shape is inspired by the progressive surfing of today's touring pros with a slightly wider nose and thumb tail to give the board amazing versatility in small-to-medium surf.

FINS
5-FIN FUTURES
TAIL
THUMB
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

CHANNEL ISLANDS BISCUIT TLPC
5'3" - 6'3" × 19.75" × 2.63" (30.5L)

Short, stubby thruster. The Channel Islands Biscuit was developed with Rob Machado. Like Rob, the Biscuit rides free and easy in the smallest surf and catches waves like a board a foot longer.

FINS
THRUSTER FCS
TAIL
THUMB
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

MCTAVISH CARVER
7'6"- 8'1" × 21.5" × 2.7" (48.9L)

Loose and lively off the tail, the Carver is the staple in the McTavish mid-length range. Versatile in all conditions for any level of rider. The reliable bottom-shape features a single-to-double concave, 3-stage rocker, a rounded pin tail, and boxy 60/40. Excels in medium-to-large waves.

FINS
THRUSTER FCS
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

MCTAVISH FIREBALL EVO II TLPC
9'1"- 9'6" × 22.8" (66.2L)

The ultimate "go-to" longboard in the McTavish lineup. More slanted towards performance surfing with a leaner nose, 3-stage rocker profile with a narrower rounded pin tail and 60/40 rails.
The double-concave tail with a single-concave nose featuring slight beveling, keeps it loose in the pocket while ultra stable for nose riding.

FINS
FCS 2+1
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ROBERT AUGUST WHAT I RIDE ES DIP TLPC
8'4" - 9'6" × 22" × 3" (61.2L)

The "What I Ride" is the one longboard everyone should and could ride.
It utilizes a 60/40 rail configuration which, in combination with a nifty tear drop concave conveniently placed under the 18" wide nose, greatly enhances your style of noseriding.

FINS
FUTURES 2+1
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – INTERMEDIATE
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

T. PATTERSON SURFBOARDS

1407 N. EL CAMINO REAL, SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92672
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TPATTERSONSURFBOARDS.COM



DEVIL FISH
5'8" × 19 ¾" × 2 7/16" (28.85L)

We like the idea of catching waves, but we knew we could make those "retro" boards go faster and turn harder by applying a more aggressive performance feel to the fish design. We took the "retro" fish and thinned out the rails back on the tail to give you that hard bite and hold for faster, harder rail turns. The bottom has a progressive flat-to-vee concave for rail-to-rail surfing at high speeds. The semi-down rail lets the board roll onto the rail without having to fight to keep your lines steady. One of the most high-performance fish designs on the market!

FINS
TWIN / QUAD
TAIL
SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO CHEST

RISING SUN
6'0" × 19 ¾" × 2 7/16" (30.9L)

This board is designed to generate maximum speed out of every wave and turn. The wide point is pushed further up the board, but the nose is pulled in, allowing the board to drive in and out of turns without compromising speed. Designed with lots of volume, a fuller outline, and a fuller double-wing round squash tail. Has a flat deck that slowly creeps into a semi-turned-down rail and has a slight double-concave to vee off the tail. Medium-entry rocker and slight kick in the tail. Designed for a twin fin and small trailer fin, but works well as thruster or quad.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
DOUBLE-BUMP ROUND SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

THE CLAM
5'11" × 19 ¾" × 2 7/16" (29L)

The Clam is designed for smaller, medium, and head-high days. The Clam has a single-concave bottom that has no problem producing speed. A low-entry rocker and low-tail rocker combined with a fuller outline, allows the Clam to glide over those flat, mushier sections. The rails are medium-full and great for giving you more flotation. Due to the increased volume, the Clam should be ridden slightly shorter than your standard shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

SPEED DRIVE
5'8" × 18 ¾" × 2 ¼" (23.6L)

The Speed Drive is a complete dragster. The single concave keeps you going fast right off your bottom turn and keeps momentum till the fins drag on the sand. The medium-entry rocker and slight flip in the tail helps create that speedy glide/drive from turn to turn. This board has a medium-full rail and keeps much of its volume under your front foot. The middle of the board has less rocker, tending to be flatter and giving it speed. The Speed Drive also has a hip in the outline, right where the fins are, that brings in the tail block just enough for faster maneuverability.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD
TAIL
ROUND THUMB / SQUASH / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
SMALL TO MEDIUM

FISH SAUCE
6'0" × 21" × 2 ½" (36.6L)

A slight modification of the Flying Saucer. If you like summer in California, then you are going to love this board. Timmy brought the tail in by designing a double-wing, round swallow-tail that allows the board to turn without sacrificing any speed. This board comes loaded with volume, nose-to-tail and rail-to-rail. Just as its predecessor, the Fish Sauce is designed for flotation and paddling, while incorporating high performance. Timmy also added heavy vee off the tail and full rails with a flat deck.

FINS
TWIN / THRUSTER / QUAD
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO HEAD HIGH

TOWN & COUNTRY SURF DESIGNS



JUMP OFF
6'0" × 20 ¼" × 2⅞" (38L)

This board is your ultimate performer and wave catcher. With the foam distributed in all the right areas, this board is really easy to ride. Stock with a 5-fin setup, so you have the thruster or quad option. Should be ordered 3" to 4" shorter, 1/2" to 3/4" wider, and 1/4" to 3/8" thicker depending on how much paddle power you want.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
DIAMOND / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO HEAD HIGH

SWINGKEE
5'9" × 19⅞" × 2½" (29.69L)

Low-entry rocker with a slight kick in the tail. Light vee through the bottom with slight concaves. Fast, fun, and skatey. Initially designed as a groveler, but rides well in juicier surf. If you like speed and boosting big airs, be ready for lift off!

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
WING SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

CMXV
5'11" × 19" × 2 5/16" (27.3L)

A high-performance, small-wave shortboard. Carries its own speed and is easy to ride. Has a flatter rocker in the nose for easy wave-catching, with a tail rocker that allows the board to turn tight in the pocket. Should be ordered an inch shorter and 1/8" wider.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
WAIST TO OVERHEAD

MONEY
5'10" × 18 ½" × 2 5/16" (25.4L)

An all-around shortboard. Features a single concave through the nose and a deep double starting from the middle of the board through the fins, making the board stay lively under your feet. Has a slight vee off the tail to turn tight in the pocket.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
SQUASH / SWALLOW / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

GLIDE
6'4" × 21 ½" × 3" (45.11L)

Small-wave longboard outline with a nose concave going into a roll vee under your front foot and a vee off the tail. If you're looking for a step-down from longboarding, this is it!

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED PIN
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
KNEE TO OVERHEAD

KEKOA BACALSO



VARIAL SURF TECHNOLOGY



SHANE DORIAN



What's your company philosophy?
Varial is driven to bring the most advanced materials to surfing, to create high-performance cores and to improve your surfing experience.

What is your biggest technology influence?
We draw on inspiration and methods from outside the surf industry. The aerospace industry is a big influence for us. They use the most advanced materials, and working with our shaper partners, we have figured out how to adapt them effectively to use with surfboards. Shape design has progressed so far, but there is a huge gap between the materials used in the majority of surfboards and leading-edge materials used in aerospace and motorsports.

What are the benefits of Varial Foam?
Varial Foam puts an advanced core material into the hands of the shaper, and enables them to custom make any shape and offer an alternative material. Varial Foam is lighter, stronger, more responsive and the foam is 100 percent UV resistant. It is always stringerless and has a uniform density throughout, which makes our foam highly consistent.

What is unique about this technology?
The science behind Varial Foam is that it is a high modulus core, which is essential to performance. It transfers the surfer's energy directly through the core to the water's surface instead of absorbing it, making the board faster and more responsive with a great pushback feel. It also allows for increased strength while maintaining a lightweight density. Unlike other technologies, you don't have to sacrifice weight, strength, or flex to make improvements.

What advice would you give to customers to help them get the best board possible?
Get a board as you normally would with the same dimensions, glassing and shape. You don't need to adjust what you're using for our technology and that will also give you the best point of reference for our technology. If you really want a light board, you can glass it extra light and still retain a lot of strength. Varial Foam works in boards made for waist-high slop to cranking double overhead surf. We will work with any shaper, and if you have questions, give us a shout.

Are there any new technologies you're working with?
We have seen a lot of amazing Varial Foam boards glassed with Hydroflex's 3D technology. Those boards perform at a high level and are the Ferrari of surfboards, making our technology even stronger and really light with tons of great flex. We also have seen some great-looking cork covered Varial Foam from Inspired Surfboards.

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...LOST "V3 SQUASH-IT" WITH HYDROFLEX 3D GLASSING

5'11" × 19.75" × 2.28" (30.66L)

We replaced the V3 Rocket tail with a smooth little squash tail. For more down-the-line projection, we relaxed the rocker through the center of the board. The rocker in the nose/tail is still curvy and fits into tight sections, but still glides. The overall stock dims are pulled in closer to that of a small-wave HP shortboard. A balanced and conservative board that further closes the gap between Rocket-type hybrids and the HP shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER
TAIL
SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

SURF PRESCRIPTIONS "NEW TOY"

5'10" × 19.75" × 2.5" (32.1L)

A double-bump round-tail quad. Perfect for less-than-ideal conditions. Incredibly fast and loose, you'll fit in three maneuvers where you used to do one. Get one 4" to 6" shorter than your everyday shortboard. Our fastest-selling new model ever.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL OPTIONS
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

ROBERTS "MEAT CLEAVER" IN EPOXY RESIN WITH S-CLOTH

5'8" × 19½" × 2⅜" (29.06L)

A perfect all-around board that can fly through flat spots and still handle steep wave faces. Extra tail rocker and a round tail allow the board to do tight turns at high speeds. Designed for guys that love to ride shorter wider boards like our White Diamond 2 in knee-to-head high surf. It has drive and speed on normal days. When the waves get bigger, you can pull in or crank off the bottom and make those meaty hacks.

FINS
THRUSTER / 5-FIN CONVERTIBLE
HIGHLY SUGGESTED.
TAIL
ROUND
EXPERIENCE
BEGINNER – ADVANCED
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

JC HAWAII "T-RD"

5'6" × 19" × 2.25" (25.8L)

Radically redefining how we look at a board. Short, wide, and thick, this little TRD really does the trick. Displacement is gracefully maximized by the "S" deck so the rails can be low. Low rocker and vee out the back allow this board to turn on a dime and never lose drive. Did you see Dorian on his 5'6" TRD? What more can we say?

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN FUTURES
TAIL
SWALLOW / SQUASH / ROUND
EXPERIENCE
ALL LEVELS
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO OVERHEAD

MB, THE "TC BAT"

5'11" × 18 ¾" × 2.5" (26.8L)

After years of collaboration between Tom Carroll and Michael Byrne, the "TC Bat" is Tom's go-to short board in a wide range of conditions. The wide point is above center, allowing drive through the barrel. This model has a single-to-double concave with a small amount of the off the tail to allow quick rail-to-rail transitions in smaller conditions. Great all-around board.

FINS
5-FIN
TAIL
BAT / SWALLOW / SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

WAVE RIDING VEHICLES

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GENERATOR | SPARKY | VAPOR | FUGGET | stingray



GENERATOR
5'6" × 19" × 2.33 (26.6L)

All the features of your perfect 6'0" performance board stuffed into a 5'6" freak! The Generator squeezes and slides into tighter pockets and works on waves with less face. Reduced tail area and wings break up the rail line, allowing user-friendly flow on the back foot while its wider nose allows for speed, control, and a great landing plane for going off the top.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN

SPARKY (BEN BOURGEOIS PRO MODEL)
5'8" × 18.5" × 2.18" (23.99L)

The Sparky swings around corners and will go vertical at any moment. It features a single-concave entry rocker where the transition of rail and bottom contours stay straight at the front foot, creating a perfect sweet spot that acts as a gas pedal.

FINS
THRUSTER

VAPOR
5'8" × 20" × 2.55" (30.70L)

The WRV Vapor pairs a retro fish outline with a high-performance bottom and rocker. Winged swallow-tail. Deep single-to-double concave. Its volume lies in its width, flatter deck, and full rails. Meant to be ridden shorter. Happy in anything from knee high to firing, head-high surf.

FINS
THRUSTER

FUGGET
5'4" × 20.25" × 2.40" (27.27L)

Not sure which board in your quiver to ride? Fugget! This compact model packs a lot of volume in a small, maneuverable package. Winged round tail. Designed to be ridden 6" to 8" shorter than your shortboard, with standard lengths in the low 5' range. This board is your friend everyday, from groveling mushy days to speedy racetrack sessions.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN

STINGRAY
6'6" × 22.88" × 3.25"

The Stingray can blaze gracefully in small-to medium-large surf. The board is for bigger guys that want a shorter board with paddle power. The Stingray is extremely fast due to a massive planing surface and minimal rocker. Lengths start at 5' and go up into the 7' range, combining high-volume foils, rails, and a flat rocker with a template that can turn any session into a party.

FINS
THRUSTER

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MOSKAH
6'0" × 19.13" × 2.38"

The Moskah has a smooth nose rocker on the stringer line which leads into a flatter rocker through the tail, allowing for easy entry into waves and fluid drive. The rail rocker has a bit more curve in the nose to release the board when transitioning up the face and into a turn. The Moskah is flatter between the middle to where the back foot is placed for optimum drive.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW / ROUNDED SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

X22
6'0" × 19" × 2.38" (27.5L)

The X22 is a board you can trust when burying the rail into driving turns. Easy to turn, the X22 is able to get drive from all places on the wave, without catching a rail. With easy entry into waves and good release off and above the lip, the X22 is considered one of the most versatile boards in the Xanadu Mid-Wave Performance line for small, medium, and bigger surf.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW / ROUNDED SQUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

VIPER
6'0" × 18.88" × 2.25" (25L)

The Viper excels in waves waist high to head high. Like the X21, this board was designed to be a mid-wave performance surfboard for good waves at home, on the WQS, and on the WCT. A major difference the Viper offers in comparison to the X21 is easier entry into waves and more drive. Same as the X21, the Viper has heaps of single concave mixed with volume under the front foot.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW / ROUNDED QUASH
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – PRO
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD

MOBY
5'10" × 19.25" × 2.38" (29L)

More area and a straighter rocker in the nose make it easier to get into waves. The middle utilizes more parallel lines to offer fluid drive, and the flat tail rocker will get you flying quickly into turns and up into and above the lip. Order the Moby 2" to 4" shorter than your normal shortboard.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
SWALLOW / ROUNDED QUASH
EXPERIENCE
NOVICE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
ANKLE TO HEAD HIGH

BG-2
6'0" × 20.25" × 2.5" (35.6L)

Similar to Moby, the BG-2 is designed for a big guy who wants to actually surf small waves, not cruise bigger boards on them. The BG-2 is 1/8" wider than its predecessor, has an overall straighter outline, fuller rails, and a bit of flatness in the nose and tail rockers. All this adds up to maximum speed in small conditions.

FINS
THRUSTER / QUAD / 5-FIN
TAIL
ROUNDED QUASH / ROUND / SWALLOW
EXPERIENCE
INTERMEDIATE – EXPERT
IDEAL WAVE SIZE
CHEST TO OVERHEAD


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SHAPER
STUDIOS

SHAPER HALL OF FAME:

Hobie Alter (1933–2014)

With his business acumen and marketing savvy, Hobie Alter discovered the most efficient way to marry foam with fiberglass, paving the way for the modern surfboard in the process

BY ASHTYN DOUGLAS

Before Hobie Alter reinvented the surfboard, the walls of surf shops were lined with 9- to 10-foot bulky balsa boards. Alter began shaping his own balsa boards in his parents' garage in 1950 and opened up his own shop in Dana Point, California, four years later. Like other shapers at the time, Alter was frustrated by the weight and scarcity of balsa, so he began his search for an alternative and found a way to marry polyurethane foam with a fiberglass lamination for a lighter, more affordable surfboard. And that was just the beginning.

Alter wanted surfing to be available to the masses, and he wouldn't stop until foam-and-fiberglass boards filled the racks of surf shops everywhere. After teaming up with then-glasser Gordon "Grubby" Clark, the duo perfected their new construction technique and discovered a way to scale production, recruiting an assembly line of shapers to crank out multiple boards in a single workday. "By the time Fred Kohner's *Gidget* was published," explains former SURFER Editor Drew Kampion, "a critical balsa shortage in Ecuador had plunged the nascent surf industry into a panic, just as the 'Gidget effect' incited new customers to seek out surfboards. The result was spectacular."

Overnight, Hobie became the world's biggest surfboard brand. By the mid-'60s, his enterprise was retailing more than 6,500 boards annually. And the foam-and-fiberglass technology that he and Clark refined paved the way for the modern surfboard.

For shapers in the 1960s, the ability to purchase foam in bulk opened up a world of experimentation, and Alter influenced all the top shapers in the industry. "He was a design pioneer, so he attracted talent like a magnet," explains Paul Holmes, author of *Hobie: Master of Water, Wind and Waves.* "When he started out, he wanted to make all his boards himself, but he soon found he couldn't keep up with demand. The first shaper he hired was the already legendary Joe Quigg. Soon after came Phil Edwards, Mickey Muñoz, Don Hansen, Terry Martin—even his rival, Dale Velzy. Everyone wanted to work with Hobie so that some of his genius might rub off on them."

Alter's ingenuity influenced other industries, as well. He established his own line of skateboards in 1964 and forever altered the sailing world three years later by building a reasonably priced and easy-to-use catamaran. You may have heard of the 14-foot "Hobie Cat," which did for sailing what his boards had done for surfing: bringing a new experience to masses. Since then, more than 100,000 of his updated Hobie 16 catamarans have been sold.

Because of his passion for the ocean, Alter seemed to understand what we all wanted to experience in the water. Couple that with his innovative mind and entrepreneurial spirit, and you've got the spark that set fire to an entire industry. "Hobie was a man of intense curiosity," says Kampion. "He had a can-do attitude that allowed him to envision the future of surfing. But more than envision it—Hobie took us there."

PHOTO BY GRANNIS



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Surfboard Accessory Guide

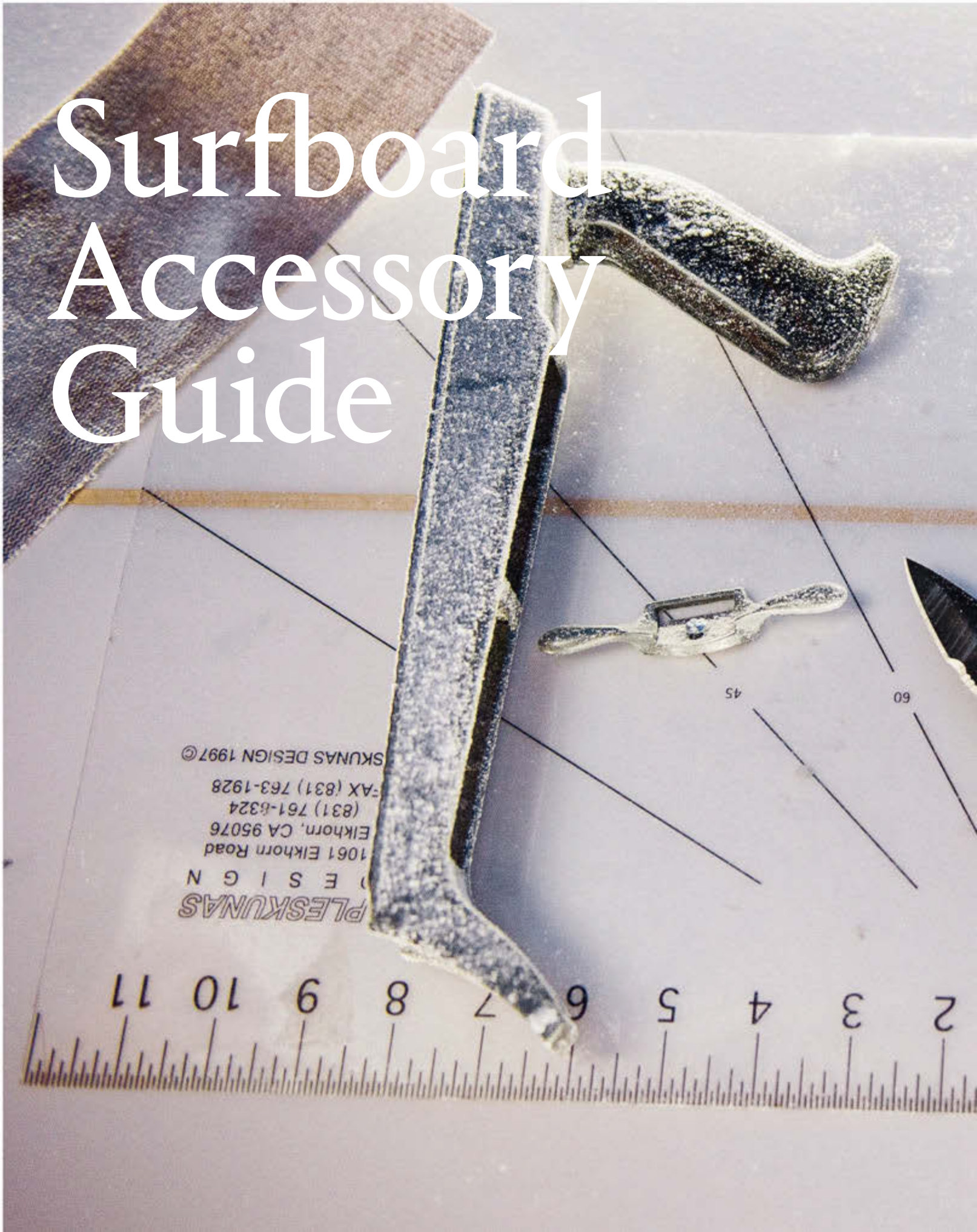


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CHANNEL ISLANDS SURFBOARDS



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Dane Reynolds Flat Pad: available in black, gray, white, maroon, orange, navy, and army. Dane Reynolds PPR Flat Pad 2 Piece: Post Production Recycled (PPR), all colors vary. Medium kick 28mm. **$38**



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Accessory Wallet: Room for three sets of fins, leash, ding repair, wax, fin keys, first aid necessities, and more. **$42** CI Team Pack: Ranch Hex leather patch. 15" laptop compartment. Single front pocket. Reinforced bottom. **$50**



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$32



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PRO COMP 6' × 3/16"

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KAINUI 7' × 5/16"

The most asked for leash by all the boys on the North Shore. Sunset and Pipe Approved. A must for double-to-triple overhead. Peahi inspired. **$30**



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Mick's fin is designed for power and flow. Available as a thruster in medium and large. Flat inside face on the side fins. Slight bevel on leading edge of side fins. Constructed out of reliable Performance Core (PC) material. **$120**



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FIN-S FIN BOX

The fin boxes are made with high-performance, glass-fiber reinforced, engineering grade plastic, resulting in a strong, light-weight, and a durable component. The fin box is optimized to use the shortest possible length to enable a more natural flex pattern in the tail of the board. The corrosion resistant marine-grade stainless steel spring maintains a constant pressure to securely lock the fin into the fin box. They are designed to outlast the lifetime of your board. **$8.50**

FUTURES FINS



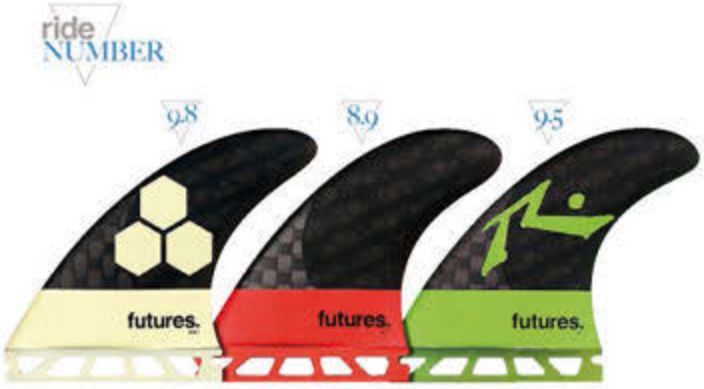
RIDE NUMBER

We have created a performance scale called the Ride Number that rates our fins from one to ten, with the intention of simplifying the selection process for you. A fin that is rated a 10 is Speed Generating, and will feel springy, fluid, and responsive. A fin that is a 1 is Speed Controlling, and will feel solid, engaged, and predictable. A fin that is a 5 is Balanced, and will offer you feelings from both extremes. Determine your size range, determine if you need to create speed, control speed or want an all-around feel, and find your Ride Number.



RUSTY 5-FIN

Providing two fin set-ups in one package, the Rusty 5-fin combines Rusty's full-bodied large thruster set-up with their quad rears, offering a range of versatility for your favorite summer boards. The quad rears are much smaller than the front fins, providing good drive off of the bottom and easy release off of the top. Landing at a Balanced Ride Number of 6.3 for the thruster and 6.1 for the quad, the Rusty 5-fin provides multiple options for one board.



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For ten years, Blackstix fins have been a staple in the Futures line as a reliable fin that will generate speed and make your board feel more lively in less powerful surf. The new Blackstix 3.0 are designed with new materials and our engineered V2 foil for an enhanced ride, resulting in Ride Numbers in the Speed Generating range of 10 to 7 in small, medium, and large size categories.



BLACKSTIX 3.0 QUAD REARS

With an increasing number of quad and 5-fin boards on the market the QD2 is now available in three sizes, with our BS3.0 construction. Featuring an 80/20 foil combined with resilient carbon fiber, these fins will feel very springy and responsive. Pair these rears with your favorite Blackstix thruster side fins to create the perfect quad combo for your summer surf sessions.



TECHFLEX

Tested and proven over the past 5 years, our Techflex line is still your best option for more powerful summer swells. With templates ranging from small to large in size, surfers of all varieties can benefit from this construction. Featuring a carbon base and tip, these fins are lighter than honeycomb but stiff like fiberglass for controlled performance, resulting in Ride Numbers between 3-5 across the complete offering.



TECHFLEX QUAD REARS

With an increasing number of quad and 5-fin boards on the market, the QD2 is now available in three sizes with our Techflex construction. Featuring a flat foil and carbon base and tip, these fins will provide additional stability and control. Pair these rears with your favorite Techflex thruster side fins and create the perfect quad combo for your summer surf sessions.



WAVES & WILKO COLLECTION

Gorilla 6' Comp Leash Waves **$26**, Eat Sleep Wave Repeat Fins **$95**,
Phat Three Waves Tail Pad **$35**, Wilko Naked Tail Pad **$40**



PALM TREND COLLECTION

Sloth Palm Trend Shank Fins **$95**, Rozsa Palms Tail Pad **$40**, Ace Camo Stripe Tail Pad **$40**



MOON BEAMS MELON COLLECTION

Gorilla 6' Comp Leash Melon **$26**, Moon Beams & Melon Fins **$95**,
Phat Three Melon Tail Pad **$35**, Ace Chips Tail Pad **$40**



BRAINS BONES BARS COLLECTION

Gorilla 6' Comp Classic Leash **$23**, Brains Bones Bars Fins **$95**
Ozzie Surf Art Tail Pad **$40**, Ozzie Magic Carpet Tail Pad **$40**



PHAT PADS

Phat One – Magic Carpet Text **$35**, Phat One – Cheese **$35**

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Alex Gray Signature Pad Highlighter Camo Series. Torrey Meister Signature Pad Pineapple Mahalo Series. Michel Bourez Signature Pad Green Clean Series. Quality EVA material and strong waterproof 3mm glue. OAM patented Animal Grip diamond grid.



OAM TRACTION PADS

Brett Barley Signature Pad Red Gradient Series. Balaram Stack Signature Pad Grey Liberty Series. Cory Lopez Signature Pad Blue Reverse Series. OAM patented Animal Grip diamond grid. Innovation originals since 1993.



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PROCTOR X FUTURES FINS—THE POWER-BROKER TEMPLATE

A template for maximum drive complemented by controlled fin release. The flat foil caters to positive hold in fully committed rail carves. Perfect for surfers 160-200lb, as Peter Mendia demonstrates below. Lightweight, high-grade, honeycomb construction. Base: 4.68" x Height: 4.75" x Rake: 2.12". **$90**





PETER MENDIA



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Perfect Day





PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Photo by Nicola Lugo

"On this day, we already had a pretty fun session at Pump House, but we wanted to try this wave just to the south that no one really surfs because there isn't any beach access," says photographer Nic Lugo. "Some years it will break a bunch of times and get really good, and sometimes we'll go two or three years without seeing a wave there at all. But in my opinion, it's still one of the best zones in Florida. The waves can get really heavy, and on this day it was perfect with nobody out. It's not often you can get a peak like this to yourself in Florida."

Pixel Delirium

The opposite of Blue Mind isn't Red Mind: It's whatever you call the state you find yourself in after staring at a computer screen for hours. You start to get twitchy and you see things between the pixels that may or may not exist. Take this image, for example. According to our photo editor, Grant Ellis, if you stare at the lip long enough, you start to see a person's face in the wave. Now of course there isn't really a person's face in the wave, because that would be ridicu— Wait...is that?...it's there! The face of his holiness, Gerry Lopez, and he's...winking. Shit, we really need to go surfing.

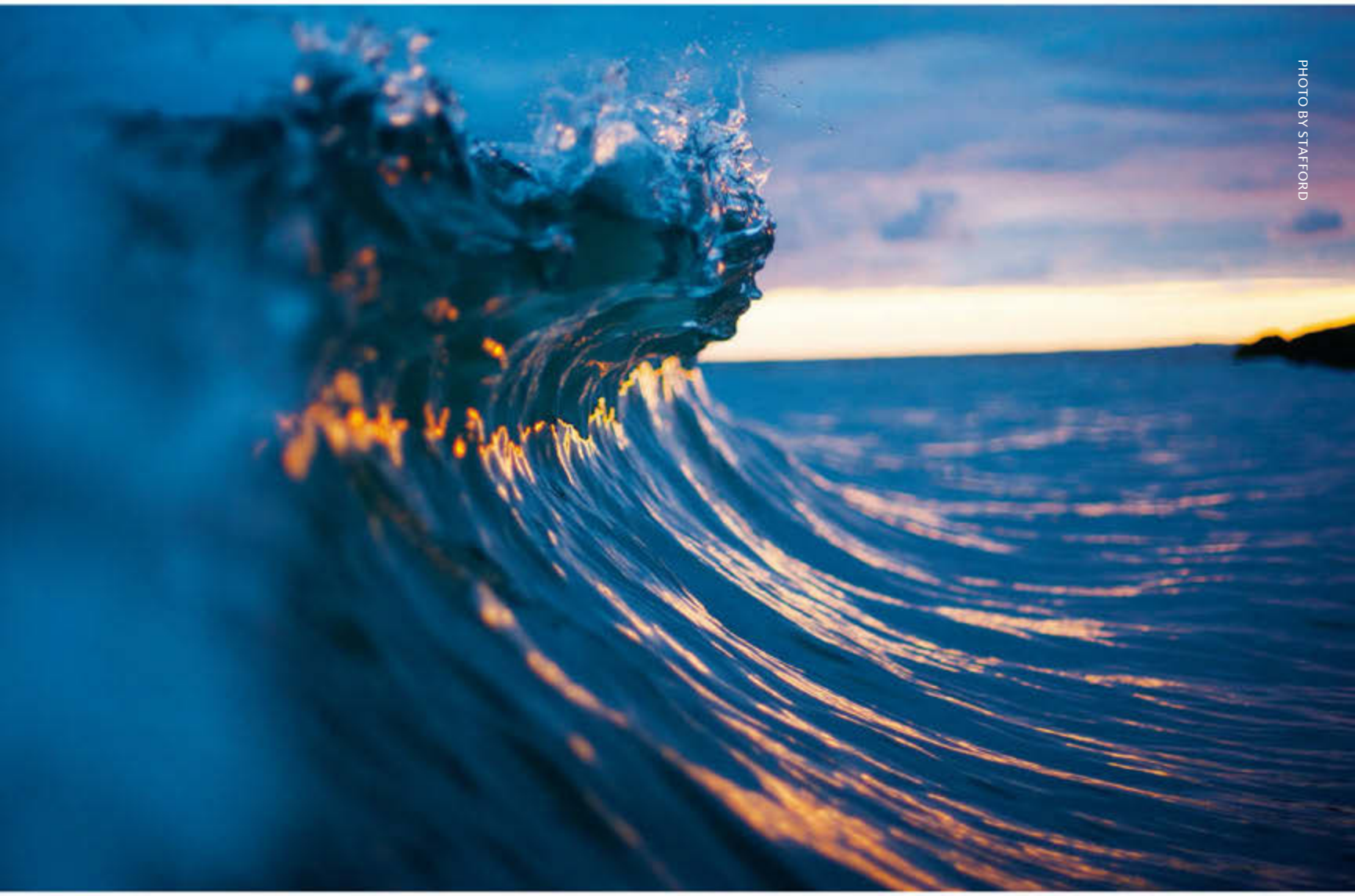


PHOTO BY STAFFORD

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"BY STREET OR BY TRAIL, NO PASSAGE WILL FAIL."

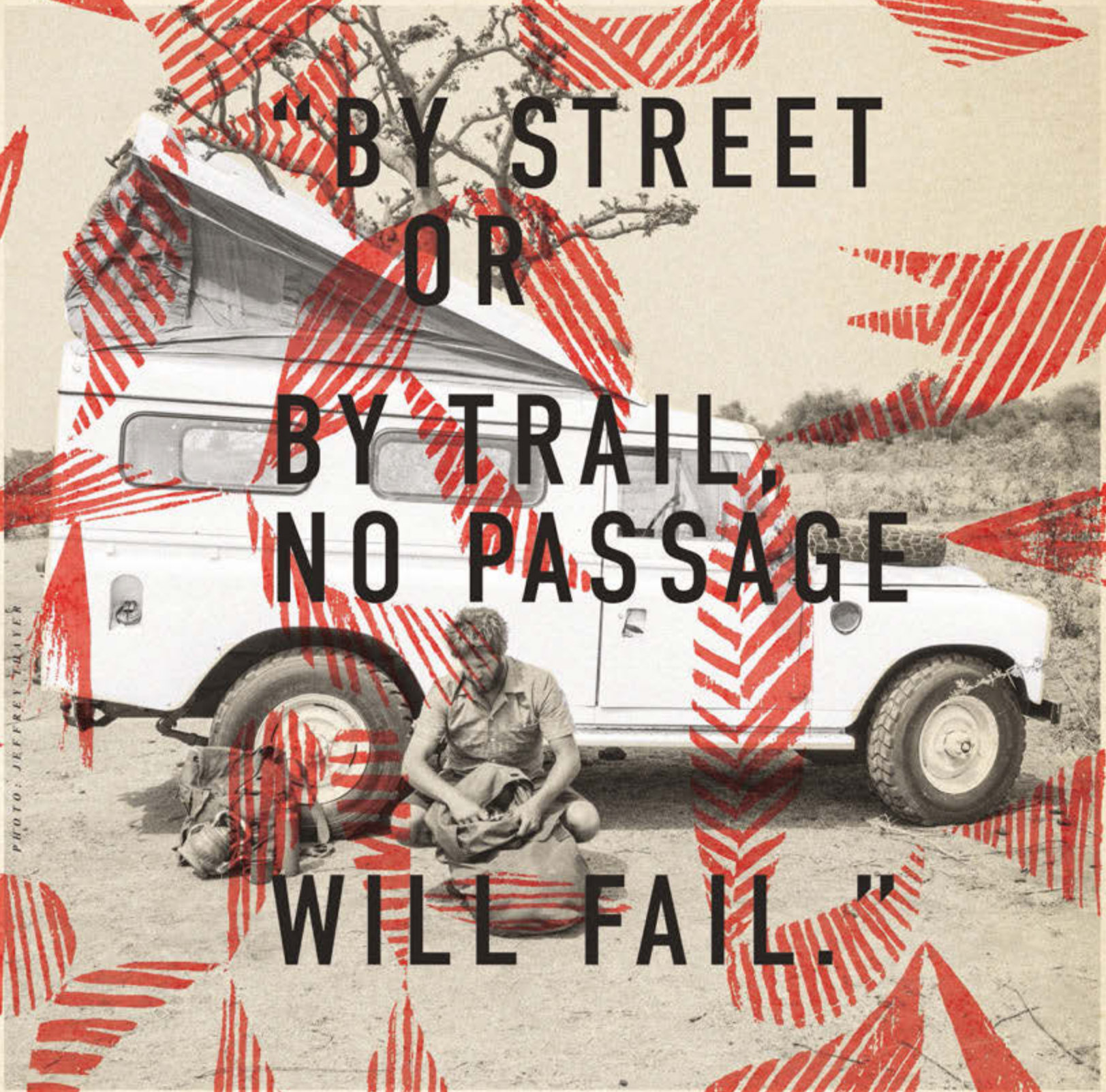


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